A

PHILOSOPHICAL AND PRACTICAL

TREATISE ON HORSES,

AND ON THE

MORAL DUTIES OF MAN

TOWARDS

THE BRUTE CREATION.

By JOHN LAWRENCE.

For that which befalleth the ſons of men, befalleth beaſts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, ſo dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath;——

All go unto one place; all are of the duſt, and all turn to duſt again. ECCLESIASTES.

Sunt enim animalia poſt hominem, ita ars veterinaria poſt medicinam ſecunda eſt. VEGETIUS.

Neque omnia, neque nihil.

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A

TREATISE

ON

HORSES.

CHAP. I.

ON THE PHILOSOPHY OF SPORTS.

THE occupations of animal life are, of neceſſity, ſportive as well as ſerious. By the term, ſport, we underſtand an action or paſſion, which agitates the mind and body, imparting to them exhilarating and delightful ſenſations. The deſire of pleaſure, and the love of variety, exiſt ſpontaneouſly in the mind, as antidotes to the corroding poiſon of ſerious cares. Man having performed his impoſed and indiſpenſible duties, becomes ſenſible of the involuntary inclination towards paſſive or active pleaſure; and every other animal, the

more preſſing calls of life being ſatisfied, obeys the ſportive impulſe, in whatever peculiar mode his nature may have preſcribed.

Thus we ſee, pleaſure is the birth-right of men and animals; and the juſt meaſure of it is determined by the due performance of their ſerious duties. Amongſt men, this meaſure muſt, of courſe, be regulated by the quantum of property, and of leiſure. The rich man, or he who from his ſuperior induſtry, or good fortune, has leſs obligation of painful duties, may lawfully command the largeſt ſhare of pleaſurable gratification; nor can any, on this account, in juſtice, repine at the diſpenſations of nature and fortune, ſince their impartiality will be manifeſt to all who are capable of reflection. It flows from natural conſequences, and therefore it is perfectly right, that there ſhould be rich and poor. The only juſt cauſe of complaint lies againſt the uſurpations of the rich and powerful, when they enſlave and oppreſs; in other words, defraud their brethren of the inferior claſſes, by compelling them to accept ſo ſmall a recompence for their labour, that far from having either leiſure, or the means, of taſting a moderate ſhare of thoſe pleaſures which ſweeten the bitter draught of life, they are worn out with inceſſant toils, to obtain wherewith to ſatisfy the mere cravings of hunger: whereas property ought to be ſacred, and the term of force

force extends to the labourer as well as to his lord; the former having an equal right to ſuch wages as the times demand, and will admit, as the latter has to the labourer's ſervices, or to the enjoyment of his own poſſeſſions. This is what I underſtand by the modern doctrine of equality. But even under the heavieſt preſſures, no juſt charge can lie againſt nature, the common mother, ſince ſhe has impartially committed the vindication of their own rights to the arms of all her children in common.

There is a certain proportion of the enjoyments of life due, not only to the labouring claſſes of mankind, but even to the beaſts themſelves, which are engaged in the ſervice of man; and whoever unfeelingly wears out theſe laſt, as he does the ſoles he treads upon, with unmerciful and inceſſant toils, withholding from them that degree of repoſe neceſſary to their comfort, and the cheerful performance of their labour, commits great and crying injuſtice, whatever brute and ſavage cuſtom may urge in his behoof.

To the rich, the purſuit of pleaſure becomes, in a certain degree, an important occupation, and the diſſipation of a part of their accumulated wealth a public duty. Their leiſure muſt be neceſſarily employed, to prevent a ſtagnation in the current of life, or the activity of their minds indulged in thoſe occupations which

produce delight. Happy for themſelves and their country, when their pleaſures are rational, and free from oppreſſion and crime; when they conduce to the advancement of the fine arts, and when they have for their object the furtherance of thoſe diſcoveries which improve and benefit human ſociety. In ſuch caſe, the inferior claſſes become ſharers in the wealth and pleaſures of the opulent, induſtry and pleaſure go hand in hand, and the general maſs of enjoyment and of profit, is infinitely augmented.

Brain-ſick fanatics, a remnant of which ſtill exiſts even in the preſent enlightened times, and wretched curmudgeons, whom nature has curſt with the ſordid letch of accumulation, are in the habit of condemning either all luxury and pleaſure in the lump, or certain particular ſpecies of them, at which their morbid fancies have chanced to take unmeaning exceptions. According to the ſlaviſh notions of theſe wrong-heads, ſtage-plays, dancing, horſe-courſing, hunting, and games of chance, are unlawful: not conſidering, that univerſal liberty is the favourite child of nature; that all poſſible acts, which do not involve abſolute crime, are, and ought to be, left to the diſcretion of man; that in things indifferent, criminality exiſts only in the abuſe, in which alſo lies the puniſhment. The divine Plato himſelf, as we are informed by

by Diogenes Laertius, was accuſtomed to frequent the public ſpectacles, and even to wreſtle on the public theatre, and that he was moreover occaſionally a dealer in oil; leaving his illuſtrious example upon record for a proof, that neither the manly exerciſes, nor the gainful purſuits of commerce, were unbecoming the moſt exalted characters.

National ſports and pleaſures are generally rational and humane, in proportion to the degree of civilization, and of liberty, which obtains among the people. The recreations of barbarians or ſlaves, taking a tincture from their ſavage, or abject manners, will ever be ferocious and bloody. Civil liberty diſpoſes the minds of men to reflection and ſympathy, and to content and hilarity, by reſtoring to them their natural rights, together with due leiſure to enjoy them. During the commonwealths of ancient Greece, and under thoſe which were afterwards eſtabliſhed in modern Italy, the innocent and manly diverſions held a rank in the public eſtimation, next to literature and the arts. Under the degrading tyranny of the Ceſars, the ſports of the Roman people conſiſted in the exhibition of the moſt ſavage acts of barbarity. By a ſtrange depravity of taſte, in rational creatures, engendered from a ſpurious and unnatural curioſity, a view of the infliction of the keeneſt miſery upon fellow men and animals, was found to

convey delightful ſenſations to the ſouls, and convulſive agonies and dying groans, to feaſt the eyes of the beholders. Even women of the moſt exalted rank, and finiſhed education (ſuch is the benumbing and lamentable effect of vicious habit) beheld with unconcern, or with raptures, the guſhing wounds and death-ſtruck countenance of the expiring gladiator, or the mangled carcaſe of the wretch condemned to ſacrifice his life in a dreadful combat with beaſts!

But our more material buſineſs is with the ſports in vogue at the preſent day, and in our own country; particularly as they relate to the brute creation: and the intent of this diſquiſition is, to determine how far ſuch diverſions are legitimate and allowable, how far conſentaneous with reaſon and humanity, or conducive to general and individual uſe. Speculations like theſe will, I fear, be little reliſhed or attended to, by the majority of mankind. I ſhall on the one hand be accuſed of attempting to ſplit hairs, and of vainly labouring to introduce impracticable refinements; on the other, of endeavouring to eſtabliſh principles of licence totally incompatible with certain revered ideas of morality. On this head, all I have to ſay is, that I hope it may be poſſible to ſpeak, what I ſuppoſe to be the truth, without giving offence.

In

In the firſt place, I muſt be bold to diſallow the neceſſity of all breaches of juſtice, either in the ſerious buſineſs, or the pleaſures of life, on the ſcore of expediency, or of the indulgence of human weakneſs. It is the plea of robbers and thieves; at beſt, that of a vicious and treacherous indolence. The uſual pretence of impracticability I deny; and were no other profit to enſue from doing right, the ſenſe of having done ſo, is a remuneration amply ſufficient to a well-informed and generous mind. It muſt be allowed, that the foundations of truth have been obſcured, ſometimes totally concealed, by thoſe uſeleſs ſuperſtructures which human weakneſs and human ſophiſtry have ſo painfully erected. Adequate knowledge of the moral fitneſs of things muſt depend on diſcrimination, and a juſt conception of the philoſophy of dilemma. Still, doctrines of this tendency need not, ought not, to be looked upon as merely eſoteric; were we honeſt, did we wiſh to be underſtood; they might, in no great lapſe of time, be rendered familiar even to the vulgar comprehenſion.

It has been obſerved, that the manly exerciſes have declined among the lower claſſes of Engliſhmen, ſince the ſuppreſſion of the Book of Sports, by the Preſbyterian Parliament. Thoſe fanatical reformers, whoſe love of liberty far exceeded their comprehenſion of its

real nature, metamorphoſed the conciliating cheerfulneſs of our Church-of-England Sunday, into the horrid gloom a Jewiſh Sabbath: it was a tender mercy, or an act of forgetfulneſs, in ſuch zealots, that they did not alſo procure an ordonnance to circumciſe, as well as exciſe, the nation, or to impoſe upon free-born men the prepoſterous and unnatural burden of the whole Hebrew ritual; to do which indeed, as what they really did, their right was preciſely equal. I do not recollect that any attempt was made to revive the Book of Sports after the Reſtoration; but I ſincerely think, that the complexion of the preſent time demands a relaxation in this point, infinitely rather than thoſe additional reſtraints, ſo warmly recommended by, perhaps well-meaning, although, as I humbly conceive, miſguided men. It is much better to concede at firſt with a good grace, that which in probability will afterwards be taken without leave: a leſſon generally learned too late by the advocates of coercion.

The gymnaſtic exerciſes, wreſtling, ſparring, foot-ball, cricket, and all thoſe games which may be enjoyed without crime, and without any material diſſipation of the time, or the earnings of labour, ſhould never be checked or impeded in the laborious claſſes; but rather encouraged by the countenance, preſence, and even perhaps participation of the rich. Such were

were the favourite amuſements of the hardy Engliſh peaſantry in 1588—

When our rough youth wreſtled, and threw the weight.

And to ſuch rational indulgencies, together with the conſtant moderate price of all the neceſſaries of life, it was no doubt owing, that their minds were retained in a ſtate of cheerfulneſs and content, notwithſtanding the degrading deſpotiſm under which they exiſted; hence a moſt tyrannic conſtitution enjoyed the enviable reputation of being deemed a ſyſtem of liberty.

Excluſive of the poſitive right of the lower ranks to all ſuch enjoyments as are fairly within the reach of their means, other arguments of great force in favour of their allowance and encouragement are to be adduced. The manly and athletic ſports invigorate and harden the conſtitution; they ſuperſede in the mind the itch for ſedentary and deſtructive games of chance; they ſerve as an antidote to the inſalubrious effects of confinement in the manufacturer; above all, they conduce materially to the procreation of a vigorous and healthy offspring; they are an excellent preparation for the military exerciſes, and render men fit to become defenders of their country.

It is neceſſary to furniſh examples of due diſcrimination in the caſe of brute animals. Their

Their rights have been already defined. Man neceſſarily poſſeſſes the right of taking their lives at diſcretion; but natural juſtice, which the laws of ſociety ought ever to enforce, forbids him under any pretence, either of pleaſure or profit, to commit cruel outrage upon their feelings. I might here, could authority be poſſibly demanded for a downright axiom, quote that of Moſes; who in the Levitical law directs, amongſt many humane injunctions reſpecting beaſts, that the knife with which the victim is ſlain, may be as ſharp as poſſible, and its edge free of torturing roughneſs: although it may be retorted, that the Jewiſh Code is a dreadfully impure ſource, whence to draw leſſons of juſtice and morality; of the truth of which, the world has had but too many and tremendous examples.

The baiting of animals, as it is called; that is, chaining and ſtaking down wretched captives, to be worried and torn to pieces by other animals, purpoſely trained for ſuch uſeleſs barbarity, is abſolutely unlawful, contrary to the light of reaſon, and the dictates of humanity; the foul diſgrace of common ſenſe, and never ought to be tolerated for a moment, in a government which claims to be inſtituted for the protection of rights, and the advancement of morality.

The origin of the infamous practice of baiting

ing bulls, which had afterwards the ſanction of an ignorant and barbarous legiſlature, is ſaid to have been as follows. By cuſtom of the Manor of Tutbury, in Staffordſhire, a bull was given by the prior to the minſtrels. After undergoing the torture of having his horns cut, his ears and tail cropped to the very ſtumps, and his noſtrils filled with pepper, his body was beſmeared with ſoap, and he was turned out, in that pitiable ſtate, in order to be hunted. This was called bull-running; and if the bull was taken, or held long enough to pull off ſome of his hair, he was then tied to the ſtake, and baited. In this unfeeling manner, was the moſt innocuous and uſeful of the animal creation treated by ſavage man: by prieſts and legiſlators, in too many periods, notwithſtanding their high pretenſions, equally unenlightened in eſſentials, with the loweſt of mankind!

The voluntary combats of animals form a caſe widely different. Nature herſelf has ſown the ſeeds of contention in the conſtitutions of men and beaſts, and to witneſs the equal combats of either, is at leaſt an act of legitimate curioſity, if it be no proof of the ſofter feelings of the ſoul. I may truly ſay, that I had never any great penchant for theſe bloody and contentious ſpectacles; at leaſt ſince reaſon began to dawn; but at the ſame time will freely

freely own, that they never ſtrike me with that horror and deteſtation, mounting up almoſt to phrenzy, with which I am ever ſeized, at witneſſing thoſe of the former deſcription. Thus the crowing and feathered combatants, armed with deadly ſteel, attract very little of my pity, knowing, as I do, that their acts of hoſtility are, and always muſt be, purely voluntary; and that the inſtruments with which they are armed, are in ſome ſort the harbingers of pity and kindneſs to them, by accelerating the period of their ſufferings. I never ſpent an hour in a cockpit in my life, nor have I ever taken much pains to conſider how far a man of reflection can, or ought to be diverted by ſuch an exhibition; I only wiſh ardently, that all our ſports, in the view of humanity, were equally innocent, and as little liable to objection, as that of cock-fighting.

This game is ſaid to be very ancient, and of Greek, or even Indian origin; and there are it ſeems at this day, in India, game-cocks of a large ſize, which equal, in deſperate valour, thoſe of our own country. The following anecdote of an Engliſh game-cock, ſo well pourtrays the nature of that bold and martial ſpecies of animal, that I think it worthy of being recorded. In the juſtly celebrated and deciſive naval engagement, of Lord Howe's fleet with that of France, on the firſt of June, 1794,

1794, a game-cock on board one of our ſhips, chanced to have his houſe beat to pieces by a ſhot, or ſome falling rigging, which accident ſet him at liberty; the feathered hero now perched on the ſtump of the main-maſt, which had been carried away, continued crowing and clapping his wings during the remainder of the engagement, enjoying, to all appearance, the thundering horrors of the ſcene.

To ſpeak impartially of HUNTING, is to touch a dangerous ſtring, and one which may produce diſcord: convinced I am performing a duty, I ſhall nevertheleſs proceed, without the ſmalleſt heſitation. The proper line of diſcrimination lies *(ita videtur)* between the chace of fierce and predaceous animals, and that of ſuch as are of a timid and harmleſs, or domeſtic nature; the former is a natural and rational purſuit, a legitimate ſport, and worthy of kings and heroes; the latter a mean and contemptible exerciſe of cruelty, which a blind and unreflecting obedience to cuſtom alone, can cauſe to be productive of pleaſure to generous minds.

> Cuſtom, which oft times reaſon over-rules,
> And is inſtead of reaſon to the fools:
> Cuſtom, which all the world to ſlavery brings,
> The dull excuſe for doing fooliſh things.
>
> ROCHESTER.

Alas! what crime hath the timid hare committed, or the deer which weeps, that they are made

made to undergo the horrid puniſhment of being haraſſed by mortal affrights, and tortured, torn, and mangled to death by piecemeal? I know, from the analogy of inſtinct in the hound, it will here be ſaid, we are following nature; but it is brute nature, uninformed and unillumined by reaſon, which is the ſoul, and ought to be the director of nature. It is ſurely enough that theſe innocents forfeit their lives, to pamper our appetites, and nouriſh our bodies; the gun and the knife, afford them a ſpeedy and unexpected exit, and they are entitled to the privilege of an undiſturbed life, and an eaſy death, by every law of reaſon and humanity. I never hear an epicure praiſing the ſuperior *goût* of a hunted hare, without having my appetite ſpoiled by reflecting upon the tortures the poor animal may have ſuffered; and this reflection always brings to my mind, not indeed a comparative, but a much more horrid cruelty of the bullock-hunters in South America, who, when they have nooſed a beaſt, leave him faſt bound, to expire in agonies, that his convulſive throes may ſo diſengage the ſkin, as to occaſion them leſs trouble in the flaying!

HUNTING THE FOX, which is a beaſt of prey, greedy of blood, a robber prowling about, ſeeking what creature he may devour, is not liable to a ſingle one of the preceding objections; nor indeed to any one, in a moral view,

view, with which I am acquainted. He is a fair object of ſport, who ſports with the feelings of all other creatures ſubjected to his powers; and a fierce and pugnaceous animal can be liable to none of thoſe horrors, either in his purſuit, or capture, which muſt inevitably agonize the feelings of the timid. I could never agree with the faſtidious diſciples of the Cheſterfield ſchool, who condemns this noble ſport *in toto*, merely becauſe a number of blockheads may chance to be attached to it: I hold it an exerciſe by no means unbecoming the ſtudent or philoſopher, who may ſeek and find health in the pleaſing fatigues of the chace, who will feel the ſympathetic and muſical chords of the ſoul vibrating to the harmony of the deep-toned pack; who will find ample cauſe of admiration at the wonderful and various inſtinctive gifts of nature, in the ſagacity and perſeverance of the high-bred hound, whilſt, borne as it were on the wings of the wind, acroſs the "country wide," ſcarce conſcious of obſtacle, by their fleet and ſtaid courſers, they acquire hardihood, a love of enterprize, and contempt of danger. The labours of the day ended, the genial banquet awaits the elated and keen-ſet ſportſmen; the purple and the golden nectar circulates briſkly among theſe terreſtrial gods—Not one of them, but in his mind, echoes ſimilar ſentiments with

with the jovial Archdeacon of Oxford, in ancient days, old Walter de Mapes.

Mihi ſit propoſitum in taberna mori,
Vinum ſit appoſitum morientis ori,
Ut dicant, cum venerint, angelorum chori,
Deus ſit propitius huic potatori.

Now goes round the ſong of triumph in full chorus, "the traitor is ſeized on and dies" —until the hoſpitable, and almoſt reſponſive walls reſound; the happy domeſtics, thoſe humble friends of generous opulence, recovered from their fatigues, become inſpired by the general joy, and inſtinctively join in the chorus. The ſong is relieved by pleaſing relations of hair-breadth ſcapes; of the ſtaunchneſs and ſpeed of the hounds; and the blood and game of the horſes; nor is love and beauty, the delight and reward of true ſportſmen, ever forgot—old friendſhips are cemented, new ones cordially formed. Happy, if no acts of unmanly cruelty have paſſed, to cloud the ſunſhine of mirth in the boſom of ſenſibility. Happy again, if heedleſs exceſs, the parent of gout, ſtone, premature debility, and inaptitude for every enjoyment of life, do not lay in a ſtore of repentance for the morrow. Here is a field of reflection for the philoſophic epicure! Say, is there no mean in voluptuouſneſs? Is there no ſtriking upon that preciſe line, which divides pleaſure from repentance? Is there

there no poſſibility of attaining the height of convivial felicity, without the riſk of ſtaggering down headlong into the muddy regions of exceſs? It were a leſſon worth the learning. If it muſt be determined negatively, I have done ſermonizing—I commit the taſk to the hands of profeſſional men. May all ſportſmen enjoy the pleaſure as they liſt, and bravely encounter the conſequence. *Vivent les Docteurs.*

I ſhall pretend to much impartiality on this head; for I declare I never rode a hunting in my life, although I have poſſeſſed, ſent into the field, and ſold many a good hunter.

But a propoſition has in general two ſides, and he who cannot, or will not, take the pains to examine both, had perhaps better not have conſidered either. I do not wiſh to be underſtood as writing an unreſerved panegyric even on fox-hunting, as at preſent practiſed. It is attended, I fear, in every hunt, with a number of groſs and uſeleſs acts of cruelty, which cannot fail of the effect of hardening and debaſing the hearts, particularly of the vulgar and ill-informed; hence, as I have before obſerved, the erroneous, but prevalent principle of hunting, is the occaſion of moſt of the cruelties practiſed upon helpleſs beaſts. But the gradually opening light of reaſon has already diſpelled the far greater number of theſe errors of nature in all

the various concerns of life, and humanity ſighs for the glorious completion.

Mr. Beckford's book on hunting, which has opportunely fallen into my hands, ſince I began the preſent chapter, I think fully confirms the ſentiments immediately preceding. Far from agreeing with the author in his ethics, I fully concur in the truth of thoſe criticiſms on his work, which he has adduced, from the Monthly Review; and which I eſteem well worthy of thoſe principles of general humanity adopted by that celebrated journal. To turn out that harmleſs, uſeful, and affectionate domeſtic the cat, which perhaps but a few minutes before, relying on your protection, was careſſing your infants, its eyes beaming fondneſs, and its feet kneading in uniſon with the grateful thrum, to be hunted, torn to pieces alive, and devoured by a pack of greedy hounds, is a blaſted and unmanly act of barbarity. I know, from long obſervation, the ill effects this cat-hunting has upon the morals of ſtable boys, and ſervants in general, and have more than once witneſſed ſuch cruel ſcenes of worrying and tearing theſe animals, when heavy in young, with tarriers, as would contaminate my paper to relate. I muſt own I am as fond of playing with my cat, as ever was Montagne, or even Crebillion, who kept ſo large

large a ſtud of them; and ſee no reaſon to join in ſentiment with Buffon, who ſuppoſes the feline tribe more actuated by ſelf-intereſt than any other ſpecies of animals.

As little am I convinced of the juſtice, or even neceſſity, of torturing the feelings of the poor hare, or timid deer, by keeping them bound in the kennel, in ſight of their dreaded enemies, the hounds; whilſt theſe laſt are puniſhed with the ſevere and continued diſcipline of the whip, for a crime which *they may poſſibly* commit at ſome future period; a diſcipline, which it is a thouſand to one that five dogs in a ſcore underſtand the meaning of; and which would be utterly unallowable, granting they did, ſuch puniſhment being founded upon an unjuſt and unwarrantable principle. I ſhould conceive, that immediate and ſevere chaſtiſement upon the actual attempt to commit the crime, would be much more effectual, as well as much more conſonant with equity, which neither ought, or need, be excluded even from our ſports; nor ever will be, by the naturally juſt, after the ſeaſon of reflection. Mr. Beckford ſeems to think this flogging proceſs an act of preventive humanity. He appears to me to be arming himſelf againſt the wrong horn of the dilemma; a very common caſe.

Diſcipline and correction, upon a ſimilar principle, have been ſuppoſed to beat into the

heads of horſes, the various manœuvres of the grand manége; which, I am convinced, might be inculcated with infinitely leſs aſſiſtance from the whip.

The laſt, and perhaps the greateſt abuſe in hunting which I ſhall notice, is that horrid one of riding horſes to death in long chaces. Alas! what can be ſaid with effect, on the behalf of poor humanity, in oppoſition to the imperious dictates of pleaſure, ſupported by ancient and inveterate uſage? Nothing; but that in proportion as men become patient under the taſk of reflection, and willing to admit the obtruding light into their minds, they will be more humane, that is, more juſt; they will then (the generous of heart) experience the utter impoſſibility of reaping pleaſure from the tortured feelings of other creatures. Were I as much an enthuſiaſt in the chace, as I am in ſome other reſpects (and my reader muſt have perceived that I naturally belong to the unfortunate claſs of ſuperfluous ſenſibility) I well know, that I could not taſte one moment's pleaſure in the purſuit, however glorioufly it might promiſe, after the conviction of my horſe's inability to ſupport me; far leſs could I be baſe and cruel enough to urge beyond his powers, by the force of goading tortures, the moſt generous of all animals, whoſe peculiar characteriſtic is wil-

lingneſs

lingneſs even unto death; who never ſtops to expoſtulate, and who ought, in this caſe, peculiarly, to be a ſharer in our joys, rather than the tortured victim of our barbarous madneſs. No one need ſuppoſe me writing like a novice, who have been ſo long, and often, accuſtomed to drive theſe animals to the utmoſt pitch of their exertion, by the neceſſary force of whip and ſpur. I am ſpeaking of the abuſes of ignorance, wantonneſs, and inſenſibility. Unexpected and unavoidable accidents may happen in the heat of the chace; ſuch have no connection with the preſent queſtion. The Puritan, who allows of no other recreation than the pious one of pſalm-ſinging, who even in the chill of the morning, the heat of the day, and during the unwholeſome damps and fogs of the night, is to be found in the goſpel-ſhop, wearying out patient heaven with everlaſting impertinence, would argue againſt the uſe of all ſports, from their abuſe; an argument never legitimate but when the uſe itſelf can be proved unfounded in juſt principles.

As the only means of obviating, in every poſſible degree, thoſe heart-breaking accidents, gentlemen muſt be convinced how neceſſary it is to provide themſelves with hunters fully equal to their weight; ſufficiently well-bred, ſpeedy, and in the higheſt condition; nor is it at all leſs requiſite for the intereſts both of

pleaſure and humanity, that they acquire the true ſportſmanlike habit of riding acroſs the country with temper and judgment.

Objections have been laid againſt hunting, as producing an annual damage to the agriculture of the country: in a country, barren and unproductive of bread-corn, and where the inhabitants were generally poor, ſuch objections might be valid; but, for my part, I think them trivial in this, at leaſt in our preſent ſtate of population, and capability of produce! The right, however, of individuals to preſerve their own incloſures ſacred from intruſion or treſpaſs, it muſt be acknowledged, is incontrovertible. I rejoice that my ſubject lays me under no neceſſity to ſpeak of our game laws, otherwiſe I might be tempted to give vent to that bitterneſs and ſeverity, which I am ſorry to ſay is too natural to me, and which I endeavour on every occaſion to repreſs.

From hunting to the turf, the gradation is natural, and in courſe. Of all the various ſports, in which the brute creation is in any ſhape concerned, none is ſo pure in principle, or ſuſceptible of practice, with ſo little treſpaſs upon the claims of juſtice and humanity, as that of Engliſh horſe-racing. Its ground or intent is to eſſay and determine the goodneſs of individuals of a noble ſpecies of animal, in that peculiar way, in which nature herſelf has choſen

choſen to eſtabliſh their utility; and although even the legitimate and fair labour of the race-horſe be great, and his excitements to action ſometimes ſevere and bloody, his ſhare in the duties and ſufferings of life, is in no reſpect diſproportionate or exceſſive. But it is the peculiar recommendation of this princely ſport, that, as well as diverſion, it has utility for its object; and materially advances an important purpoſe in the ſerious buſineſs of life, that of raiſing the moſt beautiful and uſeful race of horſes.

The courſe has from very early times, been the proper theatre of amuſement to the moſt exalted ranks of ſociety, and there need no laws to reſtrain the middling and lower claſſes from engagements thereon, ſince their expenſiveneſs will, in general, confine ſuch to their proper place of ſpectators. The pleaſure of ſeeing two of the moſt elegant, ſwift, and docile of all the four-footed creation, contending on equal terms the palm of ſpeed and of courage, is a ſight worthy of a king, or even a philoſopher: nor is the uſual concomitant of wagering (abſtractedly ſpeaking) either an irrational or an unprofitable diverſion to the mind. I ſpeak here merely from obſervation, never yet having had poſſeſſion of either the right, or the opportunity, to engage in the ſpeculations of the turf; but I have ever looked upon that whole ſyſtem as moſt ingenious, and fit to

exerciſe human wit. Their hedging off bets, that is to ſay, embracing the opportunity of a favourable variation in the market-rate of betting, which admits a balance by taking the contrary ſide, and inſures a premium: their proportional adjuſtment of weight to the ſize, or preſumed goodneſs of the horſes; their trials; all ſeem a-kin to thoſe ſciences which afford demonſtration, and have a tendency to form correct habits of judging. It is an old obſervation, that there is a degree of ſhrewdneſs, ſagacity, and foreſight, even in the boys engaged in this profeſſion, far ſuperior to that to be found in their peers of other occupations. Ought it to be queſtioned, that ſimilar advantages aſcend to the higher claſſes? The turf, it muſt nevertheleſs be allowed, is not the leaſt dangerous ſchool of philoſophy; or rather, a man ought to have a good ſhare of that qualification, previous to any engagements thereon.

It is to travel ſomewhat out of the record, to notice mere games of chance; but I have a deſire to ſay a few words in that relation, becauſe if I have not formed an erroneous judgment at laſt, after much pains taken, our legal reſtraining ſyſtem is not only totally inefficient in practice, but muſt ever prove ſo, from being equally defective in principle. I apprehend, all games being perfectly harmleſs, ſimply

ſimply conſidered, and void of crime or aggreſſion, neither ought, or indeed can be to any effectual purpoſe, the objects of reſtrictive legiſlation. I cannot find that ſuch kind of interference, in any country, has ever had a better effect than to arm the law courts with an arbitrary power, corrupt the inferior magiſtracy, maintain a banditti of ſpies and informers, and to increaſe the number of other vermin, ſtill more flagitious and abandoned. I know we have men among us, ſo exceſſively fond of reſtraining the extravagancies of human liberty with parchment ſhackles, that they would, if poſſible, regulate the duties of the bed-chamber, or even the œconomy of our phyſical occaſions, by act of parliament. But it ought to be conſidered, that to frame laws, concerning the obſervance or breach of which, in a moral view, the citizens are perfectly indifferent, is to deſtroy that veneration which ſhould ever attach to the public inſtitutes; in fact to bring the very principle of legiſlation into contempt. Laws, which from their nature can only have a partial effect, are worſe than uſeleſs. The attempt is vain and deceptious, in a free ſtate, either to controul liberty of opinion in any reſpect; or of action, in thoſe things which nature herſelf has evidently ordained ſhould be committed without reſerve to individual diſcretion.

Unfortunately

Unfortunately ſingular again! I can no more agree with the one party, who ſeek by legal ſhackles to reſtrain, than with the other, who pretend to aſſert liberty; ſince they intend it for themſelves, or for the rich excluſively. The rich can have no juſt right to riſk their property in games of chance, which is not common to the poor. Such is the theory; in the application, I deem our apologiſts equally wide of the mark. The evil conſequences of gambling are a thouſand times greater in a rich man, commonly called a gentleman, than they can poſſibly be in the poor: the example of the rich is much more widely contagious, he is leſs liable to controul, he can obtain more credit, and can do infinitely greater miſchiefs, both to his own, the families of other men, and the public in general.

The preſent fuſs about the game of Faro chiefly, ſupremely ridiculous in my opinion, has given riſe to the forgoing reflections. Why not quadruple all the penalties, or even ſend the delinquents on the favourite excurſion to Botany Bay, or at leaſt to the penitentiary cells? It would be but an experiment; and I think we have been engaged, ſome four or five years, in trying experiments. With reſpect to thoſe legal ſteps, ſo frequently taken of late, I ſhould conceive that they can have no other effect, either upon high or low gambling, than merely

merely to change its theatre from one quarter of the town, or from one houſe to another. Whilſt the gambling mania continues to prevail, either among rich or poor, its appetite will be ſatiated in your deſpite, and even perhaps increaſe in the ratio of your preventive exertions. But it ſeems many a worthy gentleman, after having loſt his all at the gaming-table, has taken it into his head to proceed as far as the *Finiſh:* and would you, unreaſonable, ſeek to deprive free-born man of ſuch glorious privileges? How different is your conduct from that of thoſe legiſlators of old, who furniſhed poiſon at the public expence, for ſuch of the citizens as imagined themſelves in need of it; the beſt poſſible ſatire upon ſuicide. Do you really fancy that laws, either againſt gaming or duelling, can poſſibly have a coercive effect upon the mind of a man deſperate, abandoned, or fooliſh enough, to riſk life and property upon the winking of an eye, or the cutting of a card?

Unlimited toleration has ever been the moſt ſucceſsful preſcription for the cure of religious phrenzies, and I am firmly perſuaded, all that is curable, or ought to be cured, in the preſent caſe, will ſubmit to no other method of treatment. In my opinion (and I claim the privilege of giving it freely, becauſe far from deſiring to reſtrain any, I moſt cordially wiſh

to

to every man the ſame freedom) all our laws to reſtrain gaming, either at the Stock Exchange, or elſewhere, ought to be repealed in the groſs; not only as ſuperfluous and uſeleſs, but of a dangerous tendency. The conſequence might be an immediate inundation of gambling; which would alſo, moſt probably, ſuperinduce an almoſt immediate contrary and good effect. Satiety would pall the appetite. Competition would ruin the numerous tables. Reſponſibility would be ſhifted from the government to the individual, where it naturally ought to lodge. Fathers of families, maſters, huſbands, wives, finding the morals of their relatives, or inferiors, committed intirely to their own care, would, becauſe they neceſſarily muſt, be more vigilant. The difficulty of concealing the character of a gambler would be enhanced, by the allowed publicity of the practice. A virtuous and patriotic government would perhaps allow an annual ſum to the police of the Metropolis, for the purpoſe of printing and circulating in various quarters, ſmall pamphlets upon the dangers of play, and the *pulls* of the different games, upon the ſame principle (and a genuine and excellent one it is) on which the worthy magiſtracy of the city have ſtationed men at certain doors, with boards bearing the inſcription in capitals, BEWARE OF MOCK AUCTIONS. I have conſulted

conſulted intelligent perſons largely concerned in the pharo-banking buſineſs, and they have candidly acknowledged, that an unlimited public allowance would totally ruin their commerce, by increaſing the riſks, and reducing the profits to a trifle.

The noble old Engliſh cuſtom of fighting with thoſe natural weapons the fiſts, now faſhionably ſtyled PUGILISM, ſtands with me in the ſame predicament as the laſt ſubject, namely, it has no immediate relation to our treatment of brute animals; but the reader will find, by what follows, that boxing is a theme which I ſhould very reluctantly have paſſed unnoticed. On its principle not a word need be ſaid, that being perfectly unexceptionable, at leaſt on this ſide the millennium; when the ſaints will, in troth, have infinitely more agreeable recreation, and when the chaunting three or four ſtaves of a ſpiritual ſong will be held a far ſuperior gratification to the receiving as many ſound dowces on the chops in a ſparring match. The practice of Engliſh boxing is equally unexceptionable with the principle, being ſo ſtrictly conſonant with the rules of juſtice and morality, as to form one of the greateſt glories of the country. I know not whether it is committing myſelf to ſay, that an Engliſh blackguard learns more humanity and good morals, in ſeeing a regular boxing

boxing match, than it is probable he would, in hearing five dozen of ſermons. The appointment of umpires and ſeconds, the ſhaking of hands previous to the ſet-to, as much as to ſay, we mean to contend fairly and like men; the general ſolicitude and caution in the ſpectators, that perfect equity take place between the contending parties, that no foul blow be ſtruck, and that the fallen and the vanquiſhed be protected; and, laſtly, the parting ſalute, when the conqueror ſeems generouſly to have diveſted himſelf of the haughtineſs of triumph, the conquered to have reſigned, with a natural and manly ſubmiſſion, and both to have diſburthened their hearts of all malice or appetite of revenge—is, upon the whole, and in all its parts, ſo excellent a practical ſyſtem of ethics, as no other country can boaſt, and has chiefly contributed to form the characteriſtic humanity of the Engliſh nation.

It is a common remark, that Engliſh horſes and dogs degenerate in foreign countries; without troubling myſelf to examine that particular, I ſhall readily aſſent to the poſition, as it regards Engliſhmen: how elſe are we to account for the unnatural luſt of the American and Weſt-Indian Engliſh for enſlaving their fellow-men? Or how, for the ſavage and unmanly method of boxing practiſed by the Virginians, who are ſaid to allow no man to be a

good

good bit of mutton, unleſs he can *gouge, belluciſe,* and *bite?* In plain Engliſh, their combatants are permitted to thruſt at their antagoniſt's eyes with the thumbs; and ſome are ſo expert at that beſtial manœuvre, as to turn an eye clean out of the ſocket; and even to lacerate and wound thoſe ſacred parts, againſt which their prototypes, the Hebrew women of antiquity, in their rage, had ſuch mortal ſpite.

If I recollect aright, I firſt gathered the idea, that the well-known tender-heartedneſs and averſion from aſſaſſination and blood of the Engliſh populace, was to be attributed, in great meaſure, to the practice of boxing, from the letters on Italy, of the ſenſible and judicious Sharpe. Does a true Engliſh blackguard take it into his wife head, that you have put an unpardonable affront upon him, the utmoſt that you have to dread from his reſentment (be you native or foreigner) is a pair of handſome black eyes, a bloody noſe, and half a ſcore lovely contuſions, which may bring you into great credit with your ſurgeon as a good patient: but ſhould the fellow, in the hurry of the fray, tip you the ſemblance of a quietus, a thouſand to one but the ſenſibilities of his ſoul, excited by your fallen ſtate, drown all ideas of vengeance, and that he himſelf ſhall be the firſt to lift you up, and carry you to a place of ſafety. The naval officers eſpecially, have all the

the reaſon in the world to join with me in commendation of the illuſtrious humanity of our poor countrymen; and if the names of certain of them had appeared in a petition for mercy on a late melancholy occaſion, it had redounded more to their honour than the taking or ſinking a hoſtile fleet.

The lower people of England, want nothing but inſtruction, to make them the moſt valuable and peaceable citizens in the world. What a ſad reverſe to look to the continent. Should you offend a Dutchman, you will have reaſon to bleſs your good luck and your agility, if you do not feel the whole length of his enormous bread and cheeſe knife in your entrails. In Spain and Italy the caſe is ſtill more dreadful; there you may have the ſpado, or the ſtiletto, whipped through your loins, and yet be utterly unconſcious of the offence you have given, or whom you have offended. At Genoa, ſays Mr. Gray, one hundred and fifty aſſaſſinations are committed yearly, and chiefly among the lower claſſes; an aſſaſſin being ſure to eſcape, who can make intereſt with a noble, or raiſe a hundred and fifty livres. At Naples, Dr. Owen informs us, FIVE THOUSAND PERSONS periſhed, in one year, by the bloody hand of aſſaſſination. " A conference is ſaid to have been lately held, with his Neapolitan Majeſty, upon the ſubject, and the neceſſity of puniſhing the aſſaſſin

aſſaſſin with death, ſtrongly contended for. His Majeſty begged leave to differ from his learned adviſers, on the propriety of this ſtep; for at preſent, ſaid the monarch, I loſe five thouſand of my ſubjects by aſſaſſination, if therefore, I were to put to death every aſſaſſin, I ſhould loſe double the number."

But I have been ſpeaking of times before the glorious ſun of the French Revolution had aſcended our horizon, to illumine and humanize the minds of men, and to fit them for the real and unſophiſticated duties of ſociety. On the happy return of peace, for which every feeling, every honeſt heart muſt ſigh, the enfranchiſed continent will preſent us with a new and regenerate race of men, glorioufly different in principle and conduct from the abject, treacherous, and revengeful vaſſals of deſpotiſm. Perhaps no change in the national character of the French people is more remarkable, than that which has produced the almoſt total diſuſe of duelling, a practice formerly carried to an inſane and tremendous exceſs in that country: but from the well-known warmth and impetuoſity of ſpirit in the French, it is to be apprehended that the contentions and quarrels of the lower orders at leaſt, among them, will ever have an immediate tendency to deeds of blood. Would it not be a deſirable thing, a point gained on the ſide of

morality, to ſtop the fatal career of the knife and the dagger, by the introduction of a cuſtom, in the exerciſe of which the paſſions might be aſſuaged in a more juſt and allowable way? The almighty power of cuſtom needs no proof or comment; and were the Engliſh cuſtom of boxing, with all its deliberate and punctilious equity of circumſtance and regulation, introduced and fixed among the people of France, I have no doubt but it would have the ſalutary effect of reſtraining their natural fire, and propenſion to the laſt irrevocable deed; and in conſequence of contributing largely to their ultimate individual peace of mind, and general ſocial happineſs. I beg leave thus to recommend our Engliſh ſyſtem of pugiliſm to the generous and high-ſpirited citizens of France, ſoon I hope to become, and ever to remain, our hearty friends. In return for their having taught us "Gracefully to trip along with the light fantaſtic toe," beſides certain other leſſons of infinitely greater importance, let us inſtruct them in the offenſive and defenſive uſe of their natural weapons. There can be no doubt but that upon a proſpect of due encouragement, Mendoza would be ready, on the return of peace, to open a ſchool in the ſplendid Metropolis of France.

The magiſtrates of our own country will, I hope, be wary in their attempts to reſtrain the privileges

privileges of Engliſhmen, even in their contentions. Granting it true that boxing has ſuch an important moral effect upon the vulgar mind, it were ſurely an impolitic ſtep to diſcourage it in compliment to fanaticiſm, hypocriſy, or miſtaken ideas of humanity. Public encouragement it needs none, being as it were bound up in the very nature of the Engliſh people, amongſt whom there are to be found, at every period, individuals enow emulous of patronizing the art; yet to keep alive an art, ſchools and practice are required. In countries where commerce and manufacture univerſally prevail, habits of delicacy, the love of eaſe, and an inaptitude for defence, will invariably be induced with length of time; amongſt ſuch people it muſt be madneſs to check the principle of a martial ſpirit under whatever form.

I ſhall decline the enquiry how far the practice of pugiliſm would be conſiſtent with our eſtabliſhed ideas of gentility, but hold myſelf warranted by reaſon (all the warrant which ought to be required in any poſſible caſe) ſtrongly to recommend the manly exerciſe of the pugiliſtic ſchool to all ranks. Nothing contributes more to brace the ſinews, open the cheſt, and to impart a firm and vigorous tone to the whole body, at the ſame time affording a very agreeable exerciſe of the mental faculties.

ties. It forms an erect and graceful carriage, and produces that eaſe and adroitneſs in the uſe of the limbs, in which many people are naturally ſo deficient. In fine, the art of manual defence ſupplies the want of bodily ſtrength, and may oftentimes prove an excellent ſhield to a weak man, againſt caſual and vulgar aggreſſion.

I have attempted, and I hope have ſucceeded in the proof, that neither pleaſure nor profit in anywiſe require us to diſpenſe with the laws of juſtice and humanity, ſince thoſe laws, taken even in the ſtricteſt ſenſe, of neceſſity impede neither; and that it is a wretched miſtake to dignify with the name of pleaſure, thoſe phrenzical emotions which ariſe in the mind at witneſſing the diſtreſſes and tortures of other creatures. Thoſe who are ſo ready to condemn a man for uttering truths, ſeem unconſcious, and ought to be reminded, that they are caſting reflections upon nature herſelf. The ſmall proſpect of immediate concurrence and ſucceſs, ought not to deter the moraliſt, whoſe gratification and reward properly ſubſiſt in the ſimple performance of the duty. The prejudices and errors of the human mind muſt be worn away gradually, and by the conſtant attrition of juſt moral argumentation,

> Like marble ſtatues rubb'd in pieces
> With gallantry of pilgrims' kiſſes.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

ON THE ŒCONOMY OF THE STABLE. DIET —EXERCISE—CONDITION—SOILING, &c.

IN all civilized nations, ancient or modern, the opulent have been accuſtomed to erect commodious, and even magnificent habitations for the horſe, as an animal of the firſt conſequence, and neceſſarily in habits of the moſt intimate aſſociation with man; the ſtable has ſometimes vied with the palace in ſplendour and convenience; and for promotion of the latter, œconomical writers have been careful to furniſh us with preciſe rules and ample inſtructions.

The points inſiſted upon by the ancient writers, as of moſt importance in the ſituation of a ſtable, either for horſes or oxen, are as follow: That the aſpect be towards the South, with the convenience of windows opening backwards, for the admiſſion of the cooling breezes of the North in the ſultry ſeaſon; that the ground be dry, and ſomewhat upon an aſcent; no nuiſance, either of ſwine or poultry, at hand, and that there be a good watering place at a reaſonable diſtance. It is farther the

opinion of Vegetius, that a ſtable ought to have good light; for that the eyes of horſes being too much accuſtomed to darkneſs, might be injured by every ſudden expoſure to the glare of open day.

In our own happy clime we are indifferent about the aſpect of a ſtable, or whether it be towards the North or South; our chief external conſiderations are, ſound and clean approach, the proximity of good water, and freedom from nuiſances and ill ſmells.

From the beſt and moſt general information I have been able to obtain, the Engliſh have a juſt right to boaſt of the ſuperiority of their ſtables, as well as of their horſes; and if we have no eſtabliſhments in this country, upon ſo grand and extenſive a ſcale as were the once celebrated ſtables at Chantilly, we poſſeſs ſome which have been generally acknowledged far preferable to thoſe, in the more eſſential reſpects of utility, convenience, and comfortable accommodation.

But it muſt not be hence inferred, that our great men have confined their attention ſolely to mere ideas of convenience in the erection of their ſtables; ſince there are in England many equeſtrian palaces worthy of admiration, not only for excellence of general intention and deſign, but for true taſte and elegance of architecture; at the head of this claſs are thoſe belonging

belonging to the Dukes of Bedford, Richmond, and Devonſhire.

Of theſe magnificent places, where art and knowledge ſeem to have been exhauſted, it is impoſſible to ſay any thing but in the ſtyle of approbation and of reſpect, for the liberality as well as judgment of the noble proprietors; my buſineſs is to borrow from theſe great models, and to inquire how far their principles, and their characteriſtic excellencies, may be rendered applicable to a ſmaller ſcale, or to a general ſyſtem of ſtable œconomy.

In the crowded quarters of great towns, and where neceſſity predominates, it would be idle to recommend impracticable improvements in the lodgings of either beaſts or men, who muſt alike ſubmit to vegitate within the narrow limits aſſigned them; it may be averred, however, that horſes tied up in a cloſe confined ſtall, and conſtantly inhaling the hot and ſuffocating ſteams of their own ordure, piled up in heaps around them, ought not to be expected to continue long in a ſound and healthy ſtate, and that in order to prevent, as far as poſſible, the conſequent evils of their ſituation, the utmoſt attention ſhould be uſed in keeping the ſtable clean, and in the conſtant admiſſion of a current of freſh air during the abſence of the cattle: and notwithſtanding the obſtinate prejudices of ſtable people, I am convinced, that

no meaſure within their reach, would ſo much relieve the cramped ſinews, and ſurbated feet of labouring horſes, as that of ſuffering them to ſtand looſe in their ſtalls, narrow and confined even as they are; and that every opportunity ſhould be taken to put it in practice.

What follows will be found applicable to the general ſubject, but more immediately to the ſtable concerns of perſons of property in the country, who love the horſe, and are emulous of keeping him in the beſt ſtyle of accommodation.

It was the opinion of the ancients, that the walls of a ſtable ought to be of conſiderable ſubſtance, in order to defend the horſe, naturally ſenſible of cold, from the fineneſs of his coat, during the winter ſeaſon; and that brick was to be preferred to ſtone, as leſs liable to retain the moiſture and damps of the atmoſphere. But Vegetius gives a caution, and in my opinion a very rational one, againſt encouraging too high a degree of heat in ſtables, both on account of the relaxing effect it muſt needs have upon the bodies of horſes, and of rendering them liable to the riſk of obſtructed perſpiration upon expoſure to the external air.

Columella recommends planches of heart of oak for the horſe to ſtand upon, and herein he was followed by our early Engliſh writers, and perhaps

perhaps the practice was pretty general in their days. The rack, manger, hay-loft, and ſtall, as at preſent in uſe, are of ancient date; but intire boarded partitions for the ſtalls were formerly looked upon as an extraordinary expence, and the horſes were uſually ſeparated by poſts and bars only. The looſe ſtable or box, or at leaſt its frequent uſe, is an improvement of modern days. I believe throughout England, ſtables are now paved with ſtone, the ſtraw covering, and accidental incruſtations of dung, rendering ſuch a bottom ſufficiently warm.

The reader will have noticed my frequent warm recommendations of the looſe ſtable, where the horſe ſtands conſtantly untied, and at his liberty; a meaſure generally adopted in ſporting ſtables, with horſes lamed in their ſinews, or having their legs ſwelled and heated from work. Now as this meaſure is adopted, and found to be a uſeful remedy in ſuch caſes, why not make a conſtant cuſtom of it as a preventive? It muſt ſurely have an unfavourable effect upon the joints and ſinews, and the circulation even of the ſoundeſt and moſt vigorous horſe, to ſtand ſo many hours conſtantly tied up in one poſition, with ſcarce a poſſibility of exerciſing that muſcular motion, intended by nature to accelerate the courſe of the animal juices, and prevent their becoming ſtagnant.

It

It may be compared to ſedentary habits in the human body, always productive of debility and diſeaſe. But if the being placed as a joint fixture with the manger whilſt within doors, be ſuppoſed to have an unfavourable effect upon the health of a horſe which is regularly worked or exerciſed, what muſt be the caſe of thoſe which are ſcarce led out of the foul atmoſphere of the ſtable once a week, even to take their water, and all the while kept full of hard meat? I put it to the indolent owners of humour-blind, greaſy-healed, and broken-winded horſes, to anſwer that queſtion.

My propoſed improvement is to convert every ſtall, over and above the larger boxes for particular occaſions, into a looſe ſtable, by placing two moveable bars at the bottom, to prevent the horſe from paſſing his bounds; or ſhould it be thought neceſſary, folding doors might be adopted, to open inwards, that they might not intrench upon the liberty of the common gangway. A horſe might then exerciſe himſelf in his ſtall, by turning about, rolling, and ſtretching out his limbs at pleaſure. All danger of being halter-caſt, which has proved fatal to ſo many horſes, would be out of queſtion. It would particularly benefit thoſe dull and phlegmatic horſes, which are obſerved almoſt conſtantly dozing with their heads over the manger, and ſuch as are difficult

cult to lie down. Stiff and greaſy horſes, which have not laid down for months, when tied up in a confined ſtall, upon being turned into a looſe ſtable, well littered down with freſh ſtraw, have been obſerved to begin pawing with their feet, and to throw themſelves down almoſt immediately.

I am well enough convinced that my plan, whatever advantages it may promiſe, will experience the moſt determined oppoſition from a great majority of the reſpectable fraternity of grooms and horſe-keepers; who far enough from deſiring a horſe to exerciſe himſelf in his ſtall, would ſcarce, with their good will, permit him to move a limb, and often very ſenſibly preſent him with a good beating, for ſoiling his coat, in return for the trouble they muſt have in cleaning it. They would be in the horrors too, at the idea of the horſes dunging in the manger, or the additional trouble of fetching the dung from the upper end of the ſtall. In all caſes of this kind, the prejudices of ſervants have ever had too much weight with their maſters; but a little extra trouble in a gentleman's ſtable, ought by no means to be weighed againſt advantages ſuch as have been recited. I have known ſtables, where mangers were not uſed, but inſtead thereof, drawers, which were pulled out, and put up, as the occaſion of feeding required; a cuſtom, I believe,

believe, derived from Italy. Indeed there is this inconvenience attendant upon fixed racks and mangers, that they are always contaminated with the breath and ſlaver of the horſe, whoſe ſtomach is alſo palled by having his foul diſhes ever before him; and it would be better, both on account of room and cleanlineſs, did it not trench too much upon convenience in another reſpect, to have both racks and mangers moveable. The modern circular rack, placed in the corner or centre, is certainly an improvement of the old form, which extended quite acroſs the ſtall, and was commonly fixed externally from the head boards, the top of the ſtaves leaning forwards, from which poſition the horſe was conſtantly in danger of receiving the hay ſeeds in his eyes. Were a moveable rack required, the round one could eaſily be contrived to ſlide up to the hay-loft, and back again, as occaſion demanded. It is remarked by ſeveral of the ancient writers, that the racks are generally placed too high, which obliges horſes to an unnatural method of feeding, and by ſtraining the neck, occaſions many to become ewe-necked; on this account Peter Creſcentius recommends placing the hay as low as the horſe's knees; and it is very certain, that moſt horſes prefer eating their hay from the ground, and if with it they ſhould eat their clean litter, I know

know of no harm it could do them, although grooms are generally ſo diſturbed about the matter: if they prefer the ſoiled litter, it indicates a depraved appetite and want of phyſic. Complaints were formerly made by writers of the too general narrowneſs of ſtalls, a defect which no longer exiſts in our beſt ſtables, a moderate addition to the length of the ſtalls of which, would render them complete, and comfortable boxes.

A very gentle deſcent in the ſtall, is ſufficient to facilitate the courſe of the urine towards the drain; but the ſink is now made in the centre of the ſtall, which preſerves the ſtable dry. Horſes are ſecured in their ſtalls by two halters, one at each extremity of the manger, either affixed to it or above it. Level with the horſe's head, in front, is fixed a ſtrap, to buckle occaſionally to the noſe-band, and hold faſt the head. On each poſt, at the lower end of the ſtall, a ſtrap ought to be attached to communicate with the bridle, when it ſhall be neceſſary to ſet the horſe upon the bit, with his tail towards the manger.

A ſmall anti-room, or paſſage to the ſtable, is exceedingly convenient for the purpoſe of containing the corn-cheſt, truſſes of hay, pails, brooms, and the various other neceſſary articles; and alſo for cloſets or preſſes, unleſs it ſhould be thought preferable to affix a preſs to the

the wall immediately behind each ſtall, where the ſaddle, bridle, and various appropriate trappings might be handily depoſited.

It is, perhaps, ſtill the faſhion to keep our ſtables too hot; however that be, there is a kindred error on which I ſhall ſpeak more decidedly. The neglect of airing ſtables of all deſcriptions, is too general, and the hot and piercing effluvia of the dung muſt, I am convinced, have a very ill effect, although it may be gradual, upon the eyes, brain, and lungs of the horſes, and may be ſecretly preparing a foundation for many diſeaſes. I believe it to be an aſſiſting cauſe in the blindneſs of thoſe many horſes, which annually become ſo, nobody ſeems to know why. Yet when the ſtable is empty of horſes, and enveloped with a hot miſt, which makes one's eyes water, I have ever found the grooms averſe to leave even a crack open, whence the foul air might eſcape. The general plea is, the probable intruſion of pigs or poultry, in truth a good one; for ſetting aſide the idea of dirt, the feathers of the latter are dangerous, but it is of the utmoſt conſequence to have windows ſo placed, that a current of freſh and wholeſome air may be conducted through the ſtable.

I have often taſked myſelf to conſider of a convenient, and at the ſame time comprehenſive plan of ſtabling, calculated for a country gentleman

gentleman of moderate fortune, who might find it ſubſervient to his intereſt, or his pleaſure, to be pretty largely concerned in horſes; a plan which might, in a conſiderable degree, be ornamental as well as uſeful to an eſtate. I think the rotunda form would conduce to theſe purpoſes. I ſuppoſe a circular range of ſtabling externally, the internal compaſs of which ſhould form a ride, covered in above, for the purpoſe of exerciſe in bad weather. The uncovered area, ſhut up from all intruſion, would make a moſt convenient yard for the various neceſſary occaſions, including that of a good waſh-pond. Should the neighbourhood afford only hard, or indifferent water, the roof of the building might be contrived with a particular attention to catching rain water, the moſt pure and ſalubrious ſpecies both for man and beaſt, which might be preſerved ſweet and good, for months, in a ſubterraneous ciſtern, according to the directions to be found in Mr. Marſhall's Yorkſhire Tour. In the circle, it is propoſed to include every appendage of the ſtable—lodging-rooms for the grooms, granary, coach-houſe, ſmith's forge, ſurgery, warm-bath, or whatſoever farther convenience experience might ſuggeſt.

Arbitrary cuſtom, rather than real neceſſity, has dictated to us the invariable uſe of hay-lofts, as well as immoveable racks and mangers.

gers. In the ſituation which I am ſuppoſing, no floors above the ſtabling are of abſolute neceſſity, or if erected, need not be uſed merely as depoſitories of hay, but applied to any other uſeful purpoſe. The advantages of diſpenſing hay, freſh and freſh from the ſtack, are unſpeakable. The horſe not only has it in its higheſt ſtate of perfection, in reſpect of flavour and nutritious juice, and before it has become ſoft and muſty, or dry, and full of duſt and filth, from being tumbled about in a hay chamber, but it is alſo neceſſarily adminiſtered with more care, below and in the light. The receptacles for hay might be below, and as ſome conſiderable quantity muſt be taken from the ſtack each time, to prevent too great trouble, it ought to be truſſed cloſe as for market. Whatever may be thought of this extra labour, I am convinced the ſaving, in the quality of the hay, would be an ample compenſation.

It is the good cuſtom of our plentiful country, for horſes to ſtand conſtantly upon a luxurious carpet of clean wheat ſtraw; old authors have given a caution, that the bed reach up no higher than the horſe's knees, leſt in the act of returning his ſword to the ſcabbard, he might, by foul hap, draw up therewith a ſharp ſtraw; an accident which I never witneſſed, but which is poſſible, and might

might be attended with very dangerous conſequences. Some have recommended the practice of denying litter to moiſt and tender-footed horſes, to the end that the ſtones may render their hoofs obdurate and firm; their reaſoning appears to me ſuperficial; ſuch a method, I believe, would be a proper one to founder the feet, and benumb the limbs. I nevertheleſs admit the truth of Mr. Clarke's reaſoning upon the relaxing effect of too hot a bed for the feet and legs—*eſt modus in rebus.*

At Vienna, and perhaps in moſt parts of the Continent, the horſes, even in the firſt ſtables, ſtand all day upon boards, without litter, or with the ſtall dreſſed in ſo aukward and ſcanty a manner, that the little ſtraw left is trodden into a heap at the horſe's hind heels. Thoſe foreigners of diſtinction, who purchaſe Engliſh horſes, and wiſh to keep them in the ſuperior ſtyle of this country, ought, at all events, to retain an Engliſh groom.

I proceed to the various duties of the GROOM and HORSE-KEEPER; by the latter term, we intend him who looks after cart-horſes. In regular racing and hunting ſtables, of courſe a lad is required to every horſe; in a common way, a groom will take care of two hacks or hunters; as to cart-horſes, the neglect of which is but too general, as has been already ſtated,

the labour of one man to four of them, at leaſt, is required, to preſerve them in decent and healthy condition.

The ordinary regular ſtable attendance is four times per day; early in the morning, twelve at noon, afternoon and night. All ſaddle-horſes kept in condition, ſtand clothed in a kerſey ſheet, and girted with a broad rowler, with occaſionally the addition of a quarter-piece; the breaſt-plate is ſometimes put on when going out to exerciſe; the hood is uſed to race-horſes only, except in caſe of ſickneſs. All horſes, excepting racers, are beſt without clothing in the ſummer ſeaſon.

It is a ridiculous cockney practice, and indeed productive of many ill conſequences, to oblige a horſe to ſtand in the ſtable with his belly bound up ſo tight, that room is ſcarce left for the performance of the animal functions, under the idea of "getting his guts up." Granting the pretended deſign was anſwered, which I could never obſerve, the conſideration of the probable miſchief ought to outweigh the preſumed benefit. Proper exerciſe or work will ſoon draw up the belly: if a horſe in high condition ſhould ſtill carry a large carcaſe, it is a rare ſign of ability for buſineſs. A certain friend of mine, once complained that the bellies of his horſes were really ſo large, that he was aſhamed to ride them, notwithſtanding the vaſt

care

care of his groom, in giving them nitre and diuretic balls, and keeping body-girths conſtantly upon them, drawn up with all his might. Soon after I rode a ſtage with this gentleman, of about twenty four miles, rather briſkly; I ſuppoſe after the rate of eleven miles per hour; at the end, I could ſcarce ſee any bellies his horſes had, nor much probability of their recruiting in haſte, for they would not touch their food. I never afterwards heard of the body-girths.

Here follows the immediate ſtyle of TRIMMING Horſes. The legs and heels are trimmed quite cloſe, and delicately even with comb and ſciſſars. The long hairs around the eyes are pulled; thoſe below, as the noſe, cut cloſe with the ſciſſars; the beard and ears, ſinged with a lighted candle. The latter is a uſeleſs and dangerous practice; uſeleſs, becauſe nowiſe contributory to the appearance of beauty or ſymmetry, the ends of which are anſwered to the full, by clipping the hair perfectly even externally; dangerous, becauſe in the firſt inſtance the horſe is puniſhed and rendered ſhy about the head, and, what is of much worſe conſequence, liable to colds, from the expoſure of the delicate organs of hearing to ſharp air, and the drippings of rain and ſleet. Nature has given that hair to defend the inner ear, and no horſe ought to be deprived of it upon any pretence:

in fact, I know of no pretence we have but that —ſuch is the cuſtom. Dr. Darwin remarks, that this ſilly cuſtom not only renders horſes liable to take cold in the head, but alſo to the intruſion of hay-ſeeds into the ears, in both which caſes, the eyes are affected with ſympathetic inflamation.

The MANE is pulled with the fingers, a few hairs at a time, and rendered thin enough to hang lightly and ſmoothly on the right, or off ſide, to ſomewhat more than a finger's length; at the upper extremity of the neck, it is cloſe ſhorn with the ſciſſars, to the extent of two or three fingers breadth, to admit the headſtall of the bridle, and this leaves, detached from the mane, the foretop; which, by being cloſe cut in front, at the roots with ſciſſars, and at the ends with the knife, is left in pretty near agreement with the mane, in point of thickneſs and length. The manes of draft-horſes are left fuller. Horſes manes are ſometimes *hogged*, that is, cut in ſuch manner as to ſtand upright. The hair of the tail is cut even, and much ſhorter than formerly. Some tails cannot be brought to hang cloſe and even, which is uſually occaſioned by the dock being left too long.

In one or two counties, both eaſt and weſt, the cuſtom of plug-tails ſtill ſubſiſt; that is to ſay, they cut the tails of their cart-horſes ſo cloſe,

cloſe, as to leave only a ſtump, which they trim quite bald; another of the thouſand inſtances in which common ſenſe is outraged in complaiſance to ſilly and capricious habit. I have no eyes to ſee what advantage there can poſſibly be in a plug-tail, to countervail the barbarous defect of a good bruſh, with which nature has intended the animal ſhould defend himſelf from the goadings of inſects in the ſummer ſeaſon. Here, as in all other caſes of cruelty, error, or prejudice, the people of conſequence ſhould take the lead of reformation; they ſhould neither ſuffer the tails of their own colts to be thus exceſſively curtailed, nor purchaſe any cart-horſes with ſuch defect—their example would ſoon prevail. I have ſometimes ſeen horſes ſo exceedingly tormented in the fields, during the fly ſeaſon, as to be almoſt entirely deprived both of reſt and feeding in the day time, and have determined in conſequence, to accommodate ſuch as were defective with long falſe tails for their defence; a method ſaid to be practiſed in Italy. So much, however, am I an advocate for faſhion, where the ſacrifice of reaſon and utility is not too great, that I cannot help agreeing with thoſe country gentlemen, who have fine teams of large thorough-bred cart-horſes, and who preſerve the hair of their heels untouched. Their full ſuit of hair, certainly gives thoſe huge animals a more ſtately

and majeſtic appearance; and ſituations where the attendance is equal to the niceſt duties of cleanlineſs, are very different from thoſe in which I have ſo ſtrongly urged the neceſſity of cloſe trimming. But the greaſed condition of too many ſtage-waggon horſes, is a moſt powerful argument for trimming all in that ſervice; nor is there much conſequence attached to the idea, that the hair defends the legs of thoſe horſes from flints upon the road, ſince horſes which travel faſt are infinitely more liable, and yet always cloſe trimmed. I muſt obſerve in this place, I have ſeen ſeveral diſagreeable accidents from the legs of cart-horſes being wounded by bean ſtubble, the punctures, at firſt of little apparent conſequence, being overlooked or neglected. The legs ought to be well examined, after labour in places where ſuch accidents are probable.

I ſhall give the method of dreſſing a horſe, in an extract from that old author whom I have ſo often quoted; it will be found to accord pretty nearly with our preſent practice: Having tied up the horſe's head, "take a curry-"comb, and curry him all over his body, to "raiſe the duſt, beginning firſt at his neck, "holding the left cheek of the head-ſtall in "your left hand, and curry him from the "ſetting on of his head, all along his neck, to "his ſhoulder, and ſo go all over his body to

"the

" the buttocks, down to his cambrell-hough;
" then change your hands, and curry him be-
" fore on his breaſt, and laying your right arm
" over his back, join your right ſide to his left,
" and curry him all under his belly, near his
" fore bowels, and ſo all over very well, from
" the knees and cambrell-houghs upwards:
" after that go to the far ſide, and do in like
" manner. Then take a dead horſe's tail, or a
" duſting cloth of cotton, and ſtrike that duſt
" away which the curry-comb hath raiſed.
" Then take a round bruſh, made of briſtles,
" and dreſs him all over, both head, body, and
" legs, to the very fettocks, always cleanſing
" the bruſh from that duſt which it gathereth,
" by rubbing it upon the curry-comb.

" After that take a hair-cloth, and rub him
" again all over very hard, both to take away
" the looſe hairs, and to help to lay his coat;
" then waſh your hands in fair water, and rub
" him all over with wet hands, as well head as
" body, for that will cleanſe away all thoſe
" hairs and duſt the hair-cloth left. Laſtly,
" take a clean cloth and rub him all over till
" he be very dry, for that will make his coat
" ſmooth and clean.——Then take another
" hair-cloth, (for you ſhould have two, one for
" his body and another for his legs) and rub
" all his legs exceeding well from the knees
" and cambrell-houghs downwards, to his very

" hoof, picking and dreſſing them very care-
" fully about the fettocks, from gravel and
" duſt, which will lie in the bending of his
" joints."

Nothing can be more obvious, than the great benefits derived to the animal ſyſtem from the factitious exerciſe of this friction, which at once ſeconds the intentions of nature, by aiding the general circulation, and cleanſes the external ſurface from all impurities; it is ſaid to be equally beneficial to the operator, and the labour of grooming has been warmly recommended by phyſicians to aſthmatic patients, or thoſe who labour under the defects of a confined cheſt and impeded reſpiration. Without regular grooming, it is vain to expect a horſe will exhibit himſelf in his moſt beautiful colours, or be capable of his utmoſt exertions; in a word, that he will be in HIGH CONDITION.

Care ſhould be taken (by the maſter I mean) that the curry-comb be not too ſharp, or at leaſt not uſed in a rude and ſevere manner, ſo as to be an object of torture and dread, inſtead of delight and gratification to the Horſe. It is too often the fate of thin-ſkinned horſes, to ſuffer much from the brutality of heavy-handed and ignorant fellows, who puniſh with hard blows every motion the irritated animal is neceſſitated to make, looking upon him as a mere

mere machine, which is deſtined to undergo all kinds of inflictions, and thinking it an act of bravery, and a kind of point of honour, to exact abſolute ſubmiſſion, poſſible or not, by the moſt prompt and rigorous puniſhment. But theſe are either perſons intirely ignorant of horſes, or ordinary ſtable fellows; a good groom acquires patience and circumſpection from their neceſſity, which experience has taught him; he handles his ſtable tools with a tenderneſs, dexterity, and adroitneſs, which nothing but the beſt leſſons and much practice will teach; his horſes are perfectly clean in every part, fed with regularity and cleanlineſs; he knows to exerciſe them with temperance and ſafety, and has a ſkilful hand to preſerve them from a fall. A raw lad, or half-groom, will make your horſe's back ſhine, and ſuffer the dirt to remain in all the hidden parts; will either gorge him with meat, or repeatedly neglect him; and whenever he takes him out to exerciſe, will be ſure to do him more harm by worrying him about (which he probably thinks a gallant thing) than a day's journey would do; and, if poſſible, break his knees before he returns. A gentleman, himſelf inexperienced in horſes, but wiſhing to keep them in good ſtyle, muſt have a groom who has ſerved in ſtables of repute, or if he deſire to make a groom, he muſt ſend his ſervant

vant where he can ſee good practice, or he will but deceive himſelf.

The duties of a groom conſiſt in dreſſing, dieting, exerciſing, and adminiſtering phyſic. It is in the aggregate of theſe, in which conſiſts the excellence of Engliſh practice. In Spain, and other parts of the Continent, the horſes of conſiderable ſtables appear to the eye perfectly well dreſt, and their coats in beautiful condition; but the attention of the grooms is chiefly confined to the exerciſe of the ſtable.

The care of the LEGS and FEET, forms a moſt important branch of ſtable diſcipline. The LEGS muſt be kept perfectly dry, and ſo clean that not a ſpeck of dirt be ſuffered to lodge in any crevice, under the knee, or fetlock, or around the coronet, and withal preſerved cool and free from ſtiffneſs and inflammation; dirt ſuffered to form a lodgement, or wet remaining upon the legs in cold weather, will fret the ſkin, and cauſe cracked heels, mallenders and ſallenders, rats-tails, crown ſcab, and ſuch a train of ſtable plagues, as may baffle the moſt vigorous efforts during a whole winter. From want of care, the beſt flat-legged horſes, whatever may be their condition, will ſoon become greaſed; but I have ſeen round, fleſhy-legged cattle, which could never be preſerved from it, by the utmoſt care of the moſt expert grooms,

and

and which abſolutely could not be kept in the houſe at all with whole legs. The moſt ſovereign of all medical recipes is prevention.—As ſoon as the legs are perceived to become hot, the heels ſcurfy, and the hair begins to ſtare, take a tub or pail of warm ſoap-ſuds, with a piece of ſoap at hand, ſet therein the horſe's leg up to his knee, and with the fingers gently ſcratch off the ſcurf from every part, patiently bathing and ſuppling the leg and heel, as long as the water remains warm. This muſt be done all-fours, and will abate the tenſion and render the legs cool. Wipe perfectly dry with a linen cloth. At night, take the ſame ſteps with chamber-lye, in which hot iron has been quenched. Continue this as long as needful. Touch the cracks and raw places, in the interim, with French brandy, or the tobacco infuſion, or as occaſion may require with camphorated elder, or ſpermaceti ointment, although this latter has been complained of as too ſtiffening. Linſeed oil and brandy, ſhook together till the maſs become white, ſoap liniment, and other forms to be found at the concluſion of the chapter, may alſo be uſeful in this intention. Care ſhould be taken not to irritate, and add to the inflammation of the legs, by harſh, too long continued, or improper rubbing; and if they be tightly bandaged with linen or woollen, which every groom knows how

how to perform neatly, it will contribute to cleanlineſs, and the general end. Some gallopers are apt to crack the ſkin of their heels in exerciſe, in that caſe, ſupple occaſionally with ſimple ointment, but in general warm water will be a ſufficient preſervative. Pains and ſoreneſs in the ſhins and ſhank-bones, are often the conſequence of exerciſe over hard ground, in very dry ſeaſons, for which I know no better palliative, than frequent warm emollient fomentations.

The legs of young horſes are extremely apt to ſwell upon their firſt ſtanding in the ſtable, and particularly after a journey; not however ſo much as uſual, if they have the benefit of a looſe ſtable. Soak the legs when cold, and not in a ſtate of perſpiration, up to the knee, patiently and thoroughly in chamber-lye heated with the poker, adding a handful of ſalt, if thought proper, twice a day. Bandage with linen if neceſſary. Worked horſes, with inflamed and ſwelled legs, battered feet, wind-galls on their paſterns and hocks (for in fact bog-ſpavins, or as the farriers chuſe to call them, blood-ſpavins, are nothing more than wind-galls, or more properly jelly-bags) and contracted, or ſtarting ſinews, ſhould be fomented and embrocated according to the neceſſity of the caſe. In contractions of the ſinews, and hardneſs of the joints, of courſe reſtringents are forbid.

forbid. Warm diſcutient fomentations are required, and the moſt efficacious method is that before recommended, of ſetting the leg into the liquid, as high as the knee. In caſe of ſtrained ſinews, cauſe the accuſtomed tenſion and inflammation to ſubſide by the uſe of the above fomentations, if poſſible, previous to the exhibition of aſtringents. Or uſe the fomentation in the morning, and the reſtringent embrocation at night, agreeable to diſcretion. Rub the ſaturnine or ſtrengthening embrocation, ſtrong or mild according to the demand, well, and for a long time, into the paſtern joints, along the back ſinews, and under the knees and hocks. It may be uſed either cold, or blood-warm, and about a tea-cup full, if ſtrong, ſuffices for a leg. Hunters, after a hard chace, would be infinitely benefited by ſuch treatment, the moſt ſcrupulous and minute care being previouſly had to free their legs and paſterns from thorns, and ſmall prickles, which they may have caught. As has been already hinted, in the Firſt Volume, page 184, and in the diſcourſe on hackney horſes, every opportunity of leiſure ought to be eagerly ſeized on, to practiſe theſe ſalutary meaſures of prevention, which with the joint aſſiſtance of the LOOSE STABLE, OCCASIONAL RUNS AT GRASS, and TIMELY EVACUATIONS FROM MILD CATHARTIC MEDICINES, would have the

the bleſſed effect of forming a coalition between intereſt and humanity. I muſt repeat, I am not flouriſhing away either upon my own, or the theories of other men: the truth of the principle I am labouring to inculcate is ſufficiently obvious to the well-informed, to me it is confirmed by many years experimental practice. With inconſiderate and capricious people, void of attachment even to the higheſt deſert, it is the rage to change their horſes as often as their clothes; in ſuch hands a capital horſe, wantonly and ignorantly diſtreſt, without that ſaving caution which alone can enſure the continuance of great performances, is, to uſe their own expreſſive phraſe, ſoon done up: others, of more ſedateneſs and feeling, who wiſh to ride well, and at a moderate price, will find it their intereſt to purchaſe this ſort of caſt-off horſes; they are frequently to be met with in the early ſtages of decline, and with proper methods may be recovered, even to their priſtine worth.

With a thorough groom, the FEET of his horſe are objects of conſtant careful inſpection; theſe ſhould be well cleanſed beneath the ſhoe with the pecker, from all ſmall ſtones or gravel, at every return from abroad. The ſhoes muſt be examined, that their ends do not preſs into the cruſt, and that the nails be faſt; otherwiſe inſtant application muſt be made to the farrier.

ſarrier. Horſes ought by no means to remain in old ſhoes, until the toe is worn away, or the webs become ſo thin that there is a danger of their breaking, unleſs in caſe of brittle hoofs, when it is an object to ſhoe as ſeldom as poſſible. Upon the average, good ſhoes will wear near a month. Steeling the toes is in general a uſeful practice, but leſs neceſſary when the beſt iron is made uſe of.

I promiſed, in the Introduction, to give my opinion ſomewhat more at large, on the new method of treating the feet, ſome years ſince introduced by the judicious Mr. Clarke, but which has not yet generally obtained. Both Clarke and St. Bel aſſert, that oils and greaſy applications have really the effect to harden and prevent the growth of ungular and horny ſubſtances, inſtead of the generally intended one of ſoftening and relaxing them; and I am inclined to the ſame way of thinking myſelf: but how then are we to account for the well-known ſpeedy growth of the human nails, upon hands which are conſtantly employed in greaſy occupations? Yet I have obſerved, that leather, although it be at firſt ſoftened and ſupppled by the application of oil, from its frequent uſe, becomes more hard, cracks, and loſes its colour, and I think that ſome blackening compoſition might be contrived more ſerviceable, as well as more beautifying, to harneſs.

neſs. As to conſtantly greaſing and ſtopping the feet of horſes with dung, and the various compoſitions in immemorial uſe, all which I diſcontinued in my own practice, from my firſt peruſal of Mr. Clarke's book, about the year 1782; according to the beſt obſervations I have been able to make, their general tendency is to heat, dry, and harden; and if it be allowed that the hinder feet, in a ſlovenly ſtable, grow faſt from ſtanding conſtantly ſoaked in dung and urine, yet ſuch is not a ſound, but a fungous and preternatural growth and enlargement of the bottom of the hoof, which, in the meantime, aſſumes a deep and improper ſhape, becoming hot and contracted above. The ſame falſe kind of horn is obſerved to ſhoot very quick, from the hoof being conſtantly bathed by the diſcharge of greaſe, in an inveterate caſe. The warmeſt advocates for the old practice will allow, that notwithſtanding their oiling and ſtopping, moſt feet will contract, and become feveriſh by long ſtanding in the ſtable; turn the horſe abroad, and the coolneſs and moiſture of the earth will ſoon occaſion the horn to relax, the heels and quarters to expand, and the whole foot to take its natural ſhape. This ſeems to point out to us the proper ſubſtitutes within doors; to wit, water and cooling earth. In fact, I have taken horſes frequently, with feet rendered

ed as hard as oak, and nearly foundered, by the heat and greaſing diſcipline of the livery ſtables, and very ſhortly put them into a ſtate of gradual amendment, by well ſoaking their hoofs, three times a day with warm water. For the naturally ſoft hoof, I know of nō other remedy than cold ſpring water, or chamber-lye, and perhaps an occaſional ſtopping with blue clay, having never found permanent benefit from the uſe of any reſtringent medicaments; and the reader may recollect, that I was troubled nine years with ſoft hoofs. It is, however, neceſſary to remark, that Solleyſel, and ſeveral old writers, have given a caveat againſt the benumbing effect of any clay ſtopping, to which the diſcreet reader will pay that degree of attention which he ſuppoſes it may deſerve. I will readily allow, both that it may be ſometimes beneficial to anoint the coronary rings with cooling liniment or ſimple unguent, and to uſe an occaſional ſtopping or poultice, either emollient or reſtringent; but I contend that the oil-bottle and bruſh, the ſtopping-box, with its whole maſs of antiquated combuſtibles, whether tallow, ſuet, or t—ds of various kinds, ſhould be inſtantly ſwept from our ſtables to the dunghill, where they might poſſibly do ſome good, and would be out of the way of doing any harm.

I have, in the Firſt Volume, ſpoken againſt

any ſtable attempts to amend feet become thoroughly bad, becauſe ſuch meaſures are generally deceptious, and becauſe defective feet may be cured ſo much more cheaply and effectually abroad, in any ſeaſon: nor, when it is attempted in the ſtable, have I much opinion of the hazardous operation of the raſp and buttreſs, or of the various applications to promote the reproduction of the horn, which may be made to grow as faſt as it really ought, by the ſimple uſe of water: could we artificially impel nature to premature efforts, I ſee not how we ſhould be gainers, unleſs indeed in the way of trade. From the days of Solleyſel to the preſent, and longer for aught I can tell, tar, cold or boiling hot, applied to the coronet or ſole, has been a favourite noſtrum either to promote the growth of horn, or diſcuſs ſtagnant humours. I muſt acknowledge I can ſay nothing of its merits, in either reſpect, from my own experience. It may be neceſſary to remind ſome readers, that the growth of hoof, as of all other vegetating ſubſtances, muſt be progreſſive from the root downwards; in conſequence any medicament intended to promote the growth of the hoof, ought to be applied above, that is, upon and around the coronary ring.

RUNNING-THRUSHES, it hath already been remarked, are a natural defect, of courſe, in ſuch

ſuch caſe, a remedy to repel the diſcharge would ſoon be found much worſe than the diſeaſe: but there is a baſtard ſpecies of this genus, acquired from bad grooming, and ſuffering particles of grit and dirt to lodge in the aperture of the frog; another more frequent cauſe ſtill, is the cutting and trimming, or rather deſtroying the frog, by common ſhoers, whence the cleft is diſtended, and an acrimonious diſcharge enſues. The remedies are frequent ablutions, with a good lather of old ſtrong ſoap, detergents and ſtyptics; and, above all, encouraging the full natural growth of the frog, from which not an atom ſhould be pared, excepting what is ragged or decayed.

It is beneficial, in general, to take off the ſhoes of a horſe which is neceſſitated to ſtand long in the ſtable, and does no work; the growth of the cruſt, and the enlargement of the heels, is thereby promoted.

I paſs to the care of the FURNITURE AND TRAPPINGS. The bits and ſtirrup-irons are poliſhed, not plated, which is unfaſhionable. They are beſt kept in order by being inſtantly rubbed clean after uſe, and placed in a dry ſituation; ſo ſhall very little, either of oil or ſcouring paper be found neceſſary. Lazy and ſlovenly fellows, will take the bridle from a horſe's mouth, and giving the bits an apology for a wipe, daub them over half an inch thick

with ſtinking oil; the bridle is then hung up, probably againſt a damp wall, and put upon the horſe next day without being cleaned, but encaſed with oil and ruſt as it is; by which, if a puny feeder, he is rendered ſick and off his ſtomach; for moſt horſes have great averſion to any thing greaſy, and their bits ought to be as ſweet and clean as their maſter's ſilver ſpoon. I believe that oil is, however, not ſo much in uſe as formerly, either in the ſtable or the dwelling-houſe, and have been informed by ſome, whom I eſteem good houſewives, that elbow-greaſe is of all others the beſt beautifier both of ſteel and mahogany.

Another great defect exiſts among grooms, even ſuch as ſet up for profeſſors. They take no care to dry the pads of a ſaddle after a journey, but confining their attention merely to externals, never ſcruple to put a hardened and damp ſaddle upon a horſe's back; it is the ſame with regard to body clothes, which, whether they be ſoaked through with ſweat, or rain, or damps, are inconſiderately girted round the body of a horſe, ſick or well, in the preciſe ſtate in which they chance to be picked up. If there be any truth at all in analogical reaſoning, ſuch practice ought to have a very ill effect upon fine ſkinned animals at leaſt, which are ſtudiouſly kept ſo warm, and the pores of which are ever in ſuch a ready ſtate for abſorption:

ſorption: here we have, I doubt not, one of thoſe latent cauſes of colds, "caught," as the grooms ſay, "the devil knows how." The pads of ſaddles ought to be kept perfectly ſoft, and free of dirt and ſweat, and after uſe, ſhould be dried either in the ſun or by the fire, and hung in a dry place: the clothes alſo ought to be waſhed much oftener than they generally are, and ever kept bone dry: how often have I ſeen wet clothes thrown upon a horſe, in order to cure him of a freſh-contracted cold! Theſe animals, beyond all others, expoſed to the inflictions of careleſsneſs, caprice, and cruelty, have no power to tell their ſecret complaints, and too often their keepers have neither the power of reaſoning, nor the gift of ſenſibility.

The DIET of Horſes, muſt in courſe depend on the produce and circumſtances of the different countries. The Horſe, although univerſally a graniverous animal, yet varies in a degree, from the general rule of his nature, in ſome countries: amongſt the Tartars, and other inhabitants of the frozen regions of the North, he is ſaid to be fed during the Winter ſeaſon upon fiſh; an account which I can eaſily credit, ſince I have myſelf known horſes fond of raw fleſh; one hunting-mare in particular, which it was dangerous to place near a butcher's ſhop, where, being left by the ſervant, ſhe

has more than once ſpoiled the ſhape of a leg of mutton, or demoliſhed a ſheep's pluck.

The natural food of the Horſe is the ſimple herbage of the field, graſs, and on that alone he can be conſtantly kept in the higheſt ſtate of health and vigour, ſo long as he ſhall not be required to labour; and whilſt he is employed in labour, graſs in ſome form, either dried or green, ſeems abſolutely neceſſary to his maintenance in a healthy ſtate. Hay, ſtraw, and corn of the various kinds, have been from the earlieſt times the common food of Horſes; but in England, and indeed France and Germany, during latter periods eſpecially, they have rejected all other ſpecies of horſe-corn, from a well-grounded preference in favour of oats and beans, the latter for draught-horſes chiefly, or as ſubſtantial auxiliaries to the oats: oats imparting as ſtrong a nouriſhment as the conſtitution of the Horſe will properly bear, are at the ſame time of an obſterſive and cleanſing nature, and are, moreover, in my opinion, the beſt and cheapeſt in-door fattening for almoſt all animals.

The ſpecies of corn uſually given to Horſes in many countries is barley, and the bulky provender ſtraw; both which, in warm climes, are ſaid to be nearly equal in nutriment to our hay and oats. With us, barley is apt to ſcour Horſes

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and make their ſtale red like blood. Wheat is often given to the horſes of the great upon the continent; and it is ſaid, when Philip of Spain was in this country, his Jennets were fed upon wheat during a time of ſcarcity, which gave great umbrage to the people.

There ſeems to exiſt no perceptible difference of quality between the white and the black oat, being equal in weight and thinneſs of ſhell: thoſe, and their being ſhort, plump, and free from tail, are their well-known criterions of goodneſs; it is equally well known, they ſhould be ſome months old when uſed. New beans are improper for Horſes, ſwelling in their maw and griping them in a very dangerous manner. The remedy is to dry them on a kiln. Old beans ſhould be ſplit, and given either with bran, or chaff. I fed cart-horſes near ſeven years upon beans, without finding any detrimental effect therefrom; but the horſes laboured exceſſive hard. Beans contain more ſolid nutriment than oats, but of a leſs ſalubrious nature.

Grains conſtantly uſed, looſen a horſe, and impoveriſh his blood; bran ſcours and weakens the entrails; both of them are good occaſional dietetic alteratives.

Carrots are ſaid to purify and ſweeten the blood, to amend the wind, and to repleniſh after the waſtings occaſioned by diſeaſe, or in-

ordinate labour. I have been accuſtomed to uſe them for years, in all forms, and to all deſcriptions of Horſes. They are either given in Spring and Autumn, to high-fed horſes, as a change of diet, at the rate of one feed *per* day, in lieu of a feed of corn, or as full ſubſiſtence to others. They ought to be waſhed clean, and if large, cut into flat and ſizeable pieces. They are occaſionally to be purchaſed in the London markets, at a price ſufficiently moderate for horſe food, perhaps at ten pence *per* buſhel. The quantity for a feed is from half a peck to a peck.

The orderly periods of feeding with corn, in this country, are morning, noon, and night; the quantities each time either a quarter, or half a peck, with, or without, about two handfuls of beans, according to the horſe's ſtate of body. Much greater care than is common, ought to be had to ſifting the oats clean from duſt, and the dung of mice. Water ſhould be allowed without fail twice a day. I have often heard of the hay and water ſyſtem of certain œconomical ſtables, calculated to furniſh the horſe with a carcaſe, and ſave the expence of corn; but there is alſo an error not unfrequent among ſtable people, who ſuppoſe water to be at beſt but a kind of neceſſary evil to Horſes, and therefore think it a point gained, whenever they can find an opportunity to abridge

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the quantity. They find warrant for this practice in ſome of the old authors, but how well ſoever a horſe may ſhift with little or no water, whilſt abroad and feeding upon ſucculent meat, it is indiſpenſible to him in the ſtable; and I have ofttimes ſeen much miſchief enſue from its being withheld: coſtiveneſs, inflammation, gripes, and the various conſequent morbid derivatives; perpetual longing, and the danger of exceſs upon every opportunity.

The well-known uſe of hay is to dilate the body of the horſe, to ſatisfy his appetite with bulk and quantity, as corn does with compact and ſolid nutriment. Engliſh hay, the beſt in the world, it is true, contains great nouriſhment, and will keep a horſe, and even fat him; but he is unable to labour upon hay alone, and I have experienced the truth of Bracken's obſervation, that it injures the ſight of Horſes to keep them ſo, in particular if ſuddenly taken from good keep and full feeding. Hard upland hay is the proper kind for nags and coach-horſes, and it ought to be of fine colour, fragrant ſcent, and full of flower. Clover hay, and that of the artificial graſſes in general, from its groſſneſs, is appropriated to cart-horſes. Without attempting to aſcertain the preciſe quantity, it may be ſaid, that hay ſhould be given as often as a horſe has a keen

appetite

appetite for it; but great care ſhould be taken, that ſo much be never allowed at once, that he leave, and blow upon it. There lies the ſecret, even in fatting animals to profit; a thing not ſo often done as ſuppoſed. At night a conſiderable quantity of hay is left in the rack, abſolutely neceſſary, no doubt, to hard-working horſes, whoſe moſt leiſure time for feeding is the night; of the propriety of the meaſure, for horſes kept in a ſtate of luxury, I have my doubts,

"Faſting is nature's ſcavenger."

The ancients, according to Zenophon, fed their horſes but twice a day; the modern Turks, Arabians, and Moors, feed only once with corn, that is, barley; or as ſome aſſert, only once in twenty-four hours, when they allow three or four pounds of barley, feeding in the interval with ſtraw, but very little hay, which in thoſe countries is hard to be procured. Camerarius, who really ſeems to have deſerved to ride a good horſe, from his liberal manner of feeding, directs ſix double pugils, or hand-fuls of oats, or barley, to be adminiſtered three times a day, the laſt, or night-feed, to be ſome-what the largeſt. This may be eſtimated at about a peck and half *per* day. His daily routine of diet is the following. At firſt going to ſtable in the morning, give a feed of corn,

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but no hay. At nine o'clock give him a lock of well-duſted hay, which being eaten, water the horſe: leave a farther ſupply of hay, and return at twelve to give the noon-feed of corn. At three give more hay, and ſuffer him to drink again. At night offer him water previous to his laſt meal. Vegetius and Blundeville adviſe to feed a horſe in ſmall portions at a time, particularly with the coarſe and rough garbage, which it is the cuſtom to give to cart-horſes, leſt, by filling themſelves too ſuddenly and greedily, digeſtion be impeded, and ſurfeit enſue. Aſſuredly, we have little fault to find with the old writers in this important reſpect.

There exiſt two diſputed caſes in ſtable œconomy, to which it is neceſſary to advert; for my part, I think them by no means of difficult ſolution. The gallop after water, and the ratio of feeding horſes which labour but little, or occaſionally. Firſt of the firſt—It is remarkable that our early Engliſh writers condemn the gallop after water, and call it a French cuſtom; whilſt Solleyſel, and the French writers of the laſt century, equally decry it, but inſiſt on its being an Engliſh one. It is undoubtedly in oppoſition to ſound theory, and for that reaſon alone ought to be diſcontinued; at the ſame time I muſt acknowledge, I never obſerved any ill effects to ariſe from the practice. In the waterings of race-horſes, it

it muſt needs be more innocent than elſewhere, ſeeing they take a moderate number of godowns of water, and walk a conſiderable diſtance previous to their ſedate and ſteady canter; unleſs indeed they water immediately before a bruſhing gallop: that may be attended with painful ſenſations, and certainly with no benefit to the horſe. But I have ſeen a training groom take his hack from the watering trough, and ride it up and down, as if he would burſt it, under the ſtupid notion of warming the water in its belly; in ſome cart ſtables the ſame folly prevails; and theſe ſtuffed and truſſed animals are firſt ſwilled and then ſtirred up in the ſame manner. I never ſee this farce repeated, without wiſhing to have it in my power, to make each of the fellows run half a mile with two quarts of ſmall beer in his belly. My own practice is to walk briſkly after water; or in bad weather, and ſtable-watering, to rub well over the breaſt, belly, and loins.

Authors and others ſay, "feed according "to your work." Verily, verily, I ſay, take heed leſt that adage deceive you. It muſt be obſerved no horſe can be in high condition, the meaning of which is, capable from that internal ſtrength afforded him by full nouriſhment, of exerting to the utmoſt his natural powers and qualifications, without being conſtantly

ſtantly fed in the ampleſt manner. If you occaſionally lower his diet, you muſt never expect to ride gallantly, or to have your horſe in full condition, or in a ſtate that great exertions may be made with impunity. Again, the danger is equal with full feeding, and inadequate or irregular exerciſe. If your œconomy lead you to the ſaving ſhift of hay only, becauſe your work is done, you endanger the eyes and wind of your horſe. A plan of this ſaving kind may be moſt ſafely executed where is a run of good graſs; but in that caſe hard riding muſt not form a part of it, nor high condition be expected. All horſes ridden, or worked, upon this œconomical and nicely regulated plan, however well-ſhaped and firmly conſtitutioned, will be occaſionally liable to knock and cut their legs from weakneſs, be throwing off their meat every mile or two, and heaving at the flanks as if griped. In a word, from middling feeding will reſult middling caſe, and middling performance.

On this head, I am obliged to differ from Mr. Clarke, for whoſe opinion in all things, wherein he appears to have had thorough experience, I have great deference. In his correction (page 86, of the Treatiſe on the Prevention of Diſeaſes) of Dr. Bracken, on a part of the ſubject of which the doctor was likely to be ſo conſummate a judge, both as a phyſi-

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cian and a ſportſman, I think Mr. Clarke is by no means fortunate. Although a fat horſe unexerciſed, muſt be at any rate extremely unfit for labour, yet there is an immenſe difference between that compact and ſolid fleſh, which reſults from corn-feeding, and the oily and unſubſtantial fat produced by aliments of inferior quality; and a horſe fed, and even fat with the latter, is infinitely more liable to a ſudden dangerous criſis, from over-exertion, than if he were, in the ſtable phraſe, full of hard meat.

Again, Clarke quotes Berringer, who, I ſuppoſe, had it from Buffon, that "the Kalmuck "horſes are ſo hardy and ſtrong in their con-"ſtitution, as to be able to run three or four "hundred Engliſh miles in three days. They "ſubſiſt, Summer and Winter, ſolely upon "graſs in the great deſerts." By way of a counterpart, I will quote an hoſtler of former days, who ran to his maſter in a great ſtew, to inform him that a horſe had devoured his grindſtone: The maſter anſwered and ſaid—that may be. In truth, Buffon, the Prince of Naturaliſts, knew about as much of the phyſiology of equeſtrian performances, as the Horſe does of natural philoſophy. This is a part of the ſubject, for a knowledge of which, enquirers muſt not have recourſe either to the elaboratory, or the riding-ſchool. It is a thing

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which has no neceſſary connection with farriery, or ménage.

In this reforming age, various have been the improvements propoſed for the œconomical dieting of Horſes. Lord Dundonald, and indeed others before his lordſhip, have been ſtrong advocates for the continental culinary ſyſtem, or the practice of cooking the victuals of horſes, or at any rate of malting their corn; tedious methods, which, I conceive will ſcarce ever obtain in this country, where the raw provender, judiciouſly choſen, and properly diſpenſed, ſucceeds ſo admirably—In feeding for the ſhambles, I admit the ſuperior utility of coction, which I have often eſſayed. Carrots, and even turnips and potatoes, have been cried up as equal to corn for labouring horſes, and flattering accounts have been publiſhed, which ſerved to excite the admiration of the curious uninformed, and the ſmiles of thoſe whoſe judgment had been previouſly informed by experience.

In point of nutriment, CARROTS undoubtedly rank next to corn. By way of trial, I rode my hackney, three or four months one winter, upon carrots and hay only, and I found he carried me ſhort journies very well, and would go faſt; but was incapable of hard work, though he appeared in good condition. Cart-horſes I kept on the ſame food, and the

reſult

reſult was ſimilar. I will readily grant, that cart-horſes previouſly in high-condition, and firm in fleſh, will perform moderate work perfectly well, and look fine and ſleek upon carrots and good hay; but a long continuance of ſevere labour would ſoon alter the caſe, and ſubſtantial corn would be obviouſly demanded by nature. It does not appear to me, from repeated trials, that the moſt advantageous application of a carrot crop is to give it to labouring horſes: the moſt beneficial uſe of that vegetable is for ſtraw-yard horſes, mares, and foals, horned cattle, milch cows, ſtore pigs, and fatting beaſts; and for thoſe various purpoſes, I know them by experience to be abſolutely invaluable: and that all which has been ſaid in their favour by our beſt writers, is fully intitled to credit and attention. They do not boil ſo advantageouſly as potatoes, taking more fuel, and not mixing well with meal; but are infinitely more wholeſome when raw.

A page of Agricultural Memoranda in my Common-place Book, now laying open before me, I will preſent the reader with ſome particulars relative to a ſmall carrot crop, which I cultivated in Hampſhire in the year 1791, for the purpoſe of feeding Horſes and ſtore-pigs; ſuch minutes I am aware can contain nothing of novelty to the experienced agriculturiſt, but they

they may ſerve to remind a conſiderable number of perſons, who have not yet made trial of carrots, of their great conſequence, in the light of that moſt material object of huſbandry, winter food for cattle.

The ſoil was a loam of tolerable fertility, partly hazle and partly black; the former in general ten inches deep, the latter rather ſtoney and ſhallow. It had produced near a load of beans *per* acre, the preceding year. On February 17—Ploughed for the firſt time as deep as a very ordinary team of three light mares would perform. March 18—Ploughed in twenty loads *per* acre of good rich yard dung. The 29th—Sowed eight pound of broad-caſt Sandwich ſeed, procured from a gardener, upon an acre and half laid out in lands; and April 21—Sowed another quarter acre. Second week in May began hand-weeding with women, a boy attending them to carry the weeds to the farm-yard, which with the young roots were greedily eaten by the ſows. The acre and half was weeded in a fortnight, three women the firſt, and eleven the laſt week. June 20—Weeded a ſecond time, finiſhed in about ten days. July 16—Thinned the carrots for the laſt time, and began hoeing; finiſhed in ten days by one man. In September and October took them up occaſionally, as wanted, for ſtore-pigs. November 2d, began

digging the crop with dung forks. A man dug about two moderate cart-loads in three-quarters of a day; finiſhed and houſed them all, November 28. The produce upon an acre and half, and half quarter, was four hundred and thirty-nine and a half heaped buſhel baſkets, the carrots topped (which was done in the field) and the dirt on. A baſket full, clean waſhed, heaped a nine gallon buſhel, and about half-a-peck over; ſo that the crop may be called about three hundred buſhels per acre. The charges were as follow:

	£.	s.	d.
Rent and Tythe, 20s. Team, 20s. Seed, 12s.	2	12	0
Hand-weeding, 2l 17s. 6d. Hoeing, 11s. 8d. Digging, 14s.	4	3	2
Cartage home, 13s. 6d. Topping, 6s. Stowing, &c. 10s. 6d.	1	10	0
Waſhing, halfpenny *per* buſhel.		12	6
	8	17	8

Or not quite 7¼ *per* buſhel.

The carrots were generally long and ſtraight, but beſt in the hazle mould, the black being too ſhallow. They were light coloured, and of a fine aromatic flavour. The ſeaſon was exceedingly unfavourable and blighting, and the roots ſuffered much from the grub-worm; but not ſo much as the cabbages and potatoes, of which alſo I had about four acres that ſeaſon. In a favourable year, from four to five hundred buſhels of carrots *per* acre, might very

very well have been expected. The ſummer having proved ſo dry and unpropitious, I left the crop to receive the benefit of the autumnal rains, which ſucceeded; but the good effect was counterbalanced by late digging up. If they lie in a heap in the field with their tops only half an hour, they heat and become liable to rot. The top ſhould be cut off as cloſe as poſſible, without wounding the root, which will produce decay, and the roots muſt be ſtored perfectly dry.

The weather proved ſo uncertain, there was no poſſibility of getting in this crop dry; and to enhance my ill-luck, I was perſuaded to lay the roots in ſtraw, the conſequence was, in their ſweat they heated the ſtraw, which became good rotten dung, and in the end about fifty buſhels of carrots were rotted and ſpoiled. In favour of this crop muſt be farther reckoned, the young roots which were drawn, to leave the carrots a ſpan diſtant; theſe young ones were frequently of conſiderable ſize, and amounted to many cart-loads; the carrots drawn as wanted; and, laſtly, the turning in of pigs after the digging.

Fourteen buſhels of boiled potatoes went conſiderably farther in feeding the ſame number of pig ſtock, than ſixteen buſhels of carrots, beſide the latter taking exactly double the quantity of fuel. I have various preciſe de-

tails of the application of the garden crops, as well as of hay and corn, to the purpoſe of ſtock-feeding, was this the proper place to introduce them; not taken from the uncertain reports of a bailiff, as is too often the caſe, but from my own perſonal obſervation.

Of potatoes and turnips as food for Horſes, more particularly if they labour, I have no other ideas than of their groſs impropriety; but I once turned a mare, lean and worked down, into turnips, upon a rich ſand in Eſſex, with a lot of bullocks, and ſhe came up nearly as fat as the beaſts. The jockeys of Blundeville's days, were accuſtomed to fat their horſes for ſale upon ſodden coleworts mingled with bran, and a little ſeaſoned with ſalt. Almoſt all thoſe new experiments, as they are ſtyled, in the diet of Horſes and cattle, are to be found in Blundeville and Markham, particularly in the laſt page of the latter; where we find even the fir-tops lately recommended by Mr. Lawſon, which diſcovery Markham ſays, he had of 'a great lord.' Nothing can better characterize the uſe of potatoes for horned cattle, than the experiments of a gentleman at Enfield, recorded in the Annals of Agriculture this ſummer; even with good hay, they rendered the milk of cows ſo thin and poor, that it was not good enough for ſucklers; now good hay alone, will produce milk ſufficiently ſubſtantial

ſtantial for butter. I have heard of a dairy of cows in Hampſhire rotted by feeding upon potatoes. As to giving them to horſes, I ſhould do it, in a certain caſe, with the utmoſt pleaſure; that is, when I had nothing better to give them. I muſt declare it often excites both my ſenſibility and my riſibility, to read the wonderful accounts of certain experimenters in feeding brute and human cattle; one of theſe adepts will make nothing of taking a ſtore-pig from the yard, and fatting him to marrow in three weeks, whilſt I am ſuch a ſtupid bungler, as to be eight or ten doing ſuch a buſineſs, with the beſt feed.

It has occurred to my obſervation, that the turnips, cabbages, and other vegetable productions upon poor ſoils, are by no means ſo ſolid and nutritious, as thoſe grown upon richer lands. Thus, in ſome counties, bullocks will be made thorough fat with turnips or cabbages, which vegetables, produced upon poor land, I have known to fail of that effect, even with the aſſiſtance of good hay; and the beaſts have afterwards been obliged to be made up with corn, nor had it ever happened otherwiſe to the owners of them. I have heard much of milking cows upon cabbages and ſtraw; I put mine upon that diet, the vegetables coming off a middling ſoil, but they ſcoured and fell away to that degree, that I was

under the neceſſity of taking ſeveral into ſick quarters, where they were ſoon recovered to their former plight, by good hay and maſhes of bran and meal. The milk too became poor as water. I found it neceſſary to reſtrict the quantity of cabbages, and allow hay. What I have ever thought curious, both horned cattle and ſwine, according to my conſtant obſervation, prefer the leaves to the fineſt and ſweeteſt white hearts of the cabbage; I ſuppoſe on account of the greater affinity of the leaf to the bitter taſte of graſs, their natural and favourite viand. Granting the fact of the inferiority of the above-named vegetables, does the analogy hold in reſpect to corn? And is there a greater quantity of nutritive ſubſtance in a pound of flour, the produce of the hundreds of Eſſex, than in the ſame quantity grown in a leſs fertile diſtrict?

Chaff-cutting with an engine, was practiſed in Germany and Italy, and known in England, more than two hundred years ago. Of cut ſtraw I have no opinion, as being void of nouriſhment, and I think the ſtraw of greater uſe under the feet of a labouring horſe, than in his belly. Hulls, or chaff, are much better, alſo cut clover hay, to mix with the corn of cart-horſes. Cutting up unthreſhed oats for ſeed, is an ancient and a good practice, particularly when hay is ſcarce. Threſhing and dreſ-

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ſing are ſaved, and it is an œconomical expenditure of the oats, which are moreover very freſh and agreeable to the horſe. If a neceſſity exiſts for uſing new oats, and no better convenience offers, they may be dried in an oven.

I have found it a fact, that it is moſt advantageous to grind all corn for horſes which are kept at home, accordingly, I ground both beans and oats, as fine as poſſible; but it is more uſual barely to break them. Whole corn, with whatever it may be mixed, will much of it be ſwallowed in that ſtate, a great deal only half maſticated, which will elude the digeſtive powers of the animal, and be ejected from his body crude and unbroken. This is particularly the caſe with brood mares and young ſtock, the bellies of which are full of ſlippery graſs; ſuch ſhould ever have ground corn, and maſhes ſhould always be made with it. Ground buck-wheat agrees well enough with horſes, but that ſpecies of corn is the leaſt ſubſtantial.

Mr. Lawſon, a merchant of London, has lately publiſhed an eſſay, on the uſe of "mixed "and compreſſed cattle fodder," intended as feed and fattening for horſes, oxen, ſheep, and hogs. His plan is, to grind, cut, mix, and compreſs, all the articles in preſent uſe, as food for cattle, with ſome additional ones of his own recommending; and to keep the maſs

ſtowed in caſks, or other cloſe ſtowage. He gives a detailed account of all the inſtruments neceſſary in the proceſs, the moſt commodious methods according to his own practice, and various tables of expence and quantities.

His dietetic additions are, pea, bean, and potatoe haulm, the tops of carrots, and the young branches of fir-trees, dried in the ſun, or upon a kiln. With reſpect to dried bean-ſtalks, and potatoe haulm, and indeed ſuch rubbiſh in general, as it is ſufficiently obvious they can contain no nutriment, I muſt adhere to my former opinion, that they are of much greater uſe under the feet, than in the bellies of cattle. The miſchiefs that farm-horſes are conſtantly receiving from groſs, tough, and foul fodder, are notorious, the benefit (even while themſelves can pick the beſt of it) without proof; at any rate, an expenſive apparatus for ſuch purpoſes, could not poſſibly anſwer upon a farm.

Againſt the idea of compreſſing fodder for certain purpoſes, I have not the ſhadow of an objection to make, nor any thing but approbation to beſtow upon Mr. Lawſon's judicious method of conducting the proceſs—I only wiſh to ſuggeſt the propriety of excluding all but nutritious ingredients. He can ſcarce export his compreſſed fodder to any country which has not rubbiſh enough of its own growth,

growth, and it will be doubtleſs much for the honour of his Britiſh merchandize, to be of genuine ſalubrity. The article ſurely promiſes much convenience to the military or ſea ſervice, and may probably become an object of foreign trade. To kiln-dry carrots at home, could only be deſirable or advantageous under the circumſtance of their being in danger from wet, ſince in their new ſtate, they have nothing noxious or ſurfeiting, like potatoes or beans.

In order to rear valuable ſtock, either for uſe or ſale, it is neceſſary to give the COLTS corn immediately from weaning, and during every winter. It is alſo of the utmoſt conſequence that they have good ſhelter from cold, wet, and ſtorms, in hovels or out-houſes, moderately littered down. Low keep and damp lying, produce a poor and watery blood, and are by no means favourable to the growth of that plumpneſs of the muſcles, which ſo materially conduces to ſubſtance, ſtrength, and ſymmetry. A quarter peck of ground oats *per* day, with good hay, or even plenty of good oat-ſtraw, is excellent keep the firſt winter for a colt. The only ſubſtitute for corn is fine pollard or carrots; of the latter a yearling will eat a peck *per* day, ſliced thin. Foals ſhould be weaned by the beginning of November,

vember, if the mare be in-foal; if otherwiſe, they had better ſuck all the winter, the dam being high fed, and the foal ſharing with her. A caution, however, is neceſſary to thoſe who feed foals as if they intended to bacon them; of this deſcription was that worthy old farmer of whom I have ſomewhere made honourable mention; he would ſometimes feed a colt ſtone blind by the time it reached its third year.

It is of conſequence to be remembered, that yearlings will frequently ſuck the mares, and very much injure the young foals. Foals are often griped by the milk, either on account of its being heated by the mare's labouring, or its quality being affected by ſour and bad herbage. Warm marſhes of fine pollard and bran are in this caſe uſeful. If neceſſary, a ſmall quantity of ſulphur, magneſia, and honey, may be added. Sucklers are alſo occaſionally liable to be hide-bound, dull, and inapt for motion. They will be ſometimes coſtive, then looſe, the excrement ſcouring from them in ſmall quantities. It ariſes on moſt occaſions from the imperfect digeſtion of bad milk. Balls of fine rhubarb and magneſia, equal quantities, made up with honey, and the ſifted meal of oats, are the proper remedy, and muſt be uſed as neceſſity requires, until the colt be weaned. From

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two to four tea-ſpoons full make a doſe, and care ought to be taken that the ball be not too large.

I have not engaged in the preſent Treatiſe to meddle with the buſineſs of the breeding ſtud, but will copy the following little anecdote of a mare and foal, from my memorandums, as it is of the nature to afford a caution againſt accidents which too frequently occur. In April 1789, I expected a Young Marſk mare to foal every hour. The mare fed upon the common, and from an improvident deſire of ſaving a little graſs, inſtead of committing her ſafe, at ſuch a criſis, to a ſmall paddock, according to the advice of perſons of diſcretion, I ſuffered her to remain by night upon the common. I was called up one bluſtering and rainy morning, at four o'clock, and informed by a friendly labourer, that my mare had foaled under ſhelter of a hedge, and that the foal had rolled into the ditch and was drowned. It was at no great diſtance from the houſe, and we wheeled the foal home in a barrow. It was a fine colt foal, but ſtiff, and to all appearance had been ſuffocated with the mud and water. By way of experiment, I ordered the foal to be wrapped in a blanket and laid before a good fire, and by rubbing and chafing him for upwards of an hour, we at length recalled the vital principle, which had not really fled, but only remained in ſuſpence.

His

His mouth being now opened by degrees, a warm cordial of gruel, ale, and ſpice, was adminiſtered, and in a few hours he aroſe, with a little aſſiſtance; he was able to walk about, but had not yet ſtrength to draw the mare's milk. She was brought to him occaſionally, and he remained all night by the fire-ſide, a boy ſitting up with him. The ſecond day he was put into a looſe ſtable, with the mare; the third and fourth, he was ſuffered to go abroad with her, a few hours in mid-day, and was briſk and well. On the fifth came a ſharp north-eaſt wind, and I ſaw the impropriety of turning the colt out, but the farrier would inſiſt, he could be no where ſo well as abroad with his mother; I fooliſhly complied, and being obliged to go to town, at my return found the colt had lain about the cold ground too long; the impreſſion upon his tender and ſuſceptible body was too forcible, it ſtruck to his heart; he died in the night.

Great moderation ſhould be uſed in the labour of mares heavy in foal. Gentle work during their geſtation is in no degree injurious, probably ſalutary; but the riſk lies, both in exceſs and continuance, to too late a period. Inſtances are not wanting of mares foaling under the harneſs. I had two mares in foal, at plow, the one had three or four months to go, the other not two months. They laboured

boured hard. The firſt, remarkably big, became dull, and her fleſh fell away, but ſhe fed as uſual. At coming into the ſtable from work, ſhe was ſuddenly ſeized with the fit, and caſt at once twin colt foals, dead. This accident inſtantly directed my attention to the other mare, which on inſpection appeared ill, and by the ſymptoms, very probable to follow the example of her fellow-labourer in a few days; in ſhort, the part was obviouſly enlarged and ſwollen, there was a ſmall diſcharge, and nature was haſtening towards a premature criſis. I ordered her to be withdrawn from work inſtantly, gave her two or three maſhes, compoſed of fine pollard, malt, a ſmall quantity of boiled rice, and a pint of ale. In a few days, her uſual health and cheerfulneſs returned, the part contracted within its common bounds, the diſcharge ceaſed, and ſhe went her full time, producing a colt foal. It muſt be noted, however, that ſhe was not worked any more till after foaling. The uſual methods of violent exerciſe, to produce, abortion are inhuman and unmanly, and if they have the deſired effect, never fail to leave an incurable weakneſs in the body of the mare. The brown mare, mentioned in the Firſt Volume, was ridden forty-two miles in three hours, over croſs roads, by a barbarous maſter, when heavy in foal; not indeed for the expreſs purpoſe of procuring

procuring abortion, but it had that effect too ſurely, and the mare was never thoroughly recovered of the ſhock her conſtitution received, notwithſtanding my long and careful attention. The old farriers had a ſtill more inhuman method of manual extirpation of the fœtus.

Perhaps no part of our Engliſh ſtable-manége, is ſo liable to cenſure as the common method of treatment ſhewn to covering STALLIONS. The importance of the high-bred ones, will not be doubted by any one who will give himſelf the trouble to enquire into the prices ſometimes offered for them, or the annual ſum produced by ſuch as are of eſtabliſhed repute. Eleven thouſand guineas was the ſum offered at Newmarket by Earl Groſvenor, as I underſtand, for Eclipſe; and afterwards, in London, another offer of ſix thouſand, was made for the half ſhare of him, both which were refuſed by Captain O'Kelly; whoſe demand for the purchaſe of his horſe, was twenty thouſand pounds down, a well ſecured annuity of five hundred for his own life, and three brood mares. The price offered for Shark, by the ſame noble lord, has been already mentioned. Matchem earned his owner more than twenty thouſand guineas, and both Herod and Highflyer produced very conſiderable annual incomes.

A certain

A certain famous ſtallion, was, I have been informed, ſo ſhamefully neglected, as to be ſuffered to lie in his own dung until it was fairly baked upon him; and at laſt died of an inflammation in his ſheath, which ended in a gangrene. Oſmer complained of the general neglect of the feet of ſtallions and brood mares in his time; it was ſo with Eclipſe, which horſe had ſcarce a foot to ſtand upon, for ſome years before his death. Another horſe of prime note was ſo exhauſted in his nature by the unthrifty avarice of his proprietor, that he made a premature exit from the ſervice, dying in great agonies. The folly of both parties, in this caſe, is ſufficiently obvious, but I think that of the owner of the mare moſt admirable; who can expect any ſucceſs from ſuffering her to be preſented to a horſe, exhauſted by having perhaps already obliged half a dozen, or even half a ſcore females the ſame day?

This branch of the ſubject is of conſequence, it frequently involves the preſervation of conſiderable property; I ſhall therefore preſent the reader with my ideas on the proper method of treating the covering ſtallion the year round. I think, in the winter, his body ought to be expoſed to the bracing properties of the air, in a paddock, where he may ſhelter at his pleaſure; this will alſo preſerve his legs and feet. It is erroneous practice never to phyſic ſtallions,

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and I have ſeen the ill conſequence of it in divers inſtances; it is the real cauſe of blindneſs in many. A horſe ought to be prepared in the ſpring, for the campaign of covering, with two or three mild and cooling doſes. I know of nothing ſo generally proper in this caſe as the neutral ſalts, of which more hereafter. Mild purgatives diſembarraſs the animal ſprings, and promote their utmoſt elaſticity; they attenuate the blood, which a ſtate of luxury has the invariable effect to inſpiſſate, to a degree beyond the criterion of active health and vigour. The feet ſhould be managed according to the rules already laid down, among which, that of conſtant ablution is of the greateſt conſequence in the preſent caſe. Care muſt be taken to preſerve the proper ſhape of the hoof, by preventing a too great increaſe of the toe. The ſalutary exerciſe of good grooming is well underſtood; over and above that, the ſtallion ought to be regularly *led* abroad, to imbibe the exhilarating and envigorating influence of a varied atmoſphere, and on no pretence to be kept ſucceſſive days, breathing the enfeebling effluvia of the ſtable. As I have already ſaid, it is better to feed him with ground corn, that of courſe being more eaſily convertible into nutriment, and with the leaſt fatigue to the digeſtive organs, ſince nothing will paſs whole into the ſtomach, and

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the practice is a great preſervative of the teeth. It is better to grind the corn in a ſmall quantity and often. If beans are uſed, one quarter of them, to three of oats, is an advantageous proportion. In caſe of apparent debility, from over exertion, maſhes of boiled rice, decoction of rice infuſed in the drink, or ſmall quantities of ground rice mixed in the feeds, will be found beneficial. Preternatural heat, coſtiveneſs, *inertia*, and ſluggiſhneſs of the blood, will be beſt remedied by warm pollard maſhes, or ſalined water; nor will gentle evacuants, in ſuch caſe, detract from, but rather add to the conſtitutional vigour of the ſtallion, by relieving nature from the oppreſſive and debilitating load of obſtruction.

I have recommended ablution for the feet of ſtallions, it is equally neceſſary for certain other parts of them, where, inſtead of ſaying it is neglected, I may aver it is never uſed, or even thought of. Hence the accounts in authors of horſes being burnt by the mare, of mattering, and its diſagreeable concomitants. The inflammation in King Herod's ſheath, which killed him, I have no doubt was occaſioned by the neglect of ablution. I wiſh analogies were out of the queſtion here, but I muſt forbear to treſpaſs on the limits of my proper ſubject.

The *penis* and ſheath of the ſtallion, ought to be well and often waſhed with ſoap and milk-warm water, and there are many which would be benefited by ſluicing their teſticles with cold water from the pump or well, morning and night; the parts being afterwards rubbed dry with a linen cloth.

After the covering ſeaſon is over, a ſmall range of freſh young graſs would greatly benefit a horſe. In the autumn he ſhould be allowed carrots, abridging his corn or not, as the ſtate of his body may require. His powers would be conſolidated and increaſed by his being ridden exerciſe in the winter ſeaſon.

Many ſtallions have been ſeverely wounded, ſome killed outright, by an unlucky kick from a mare. It is always uſual, by way of precaution, to faſten the mare's legs with ropes, but I have nevertheleſs known accidents to happen from very vicious mares. The beſt method is to have a high poſt conveniently placed, to which the mare's head may be made faſt, and four low ones to receive leathers which may ſecure her legs. This would be uſeful for unruly colts, and in many caſes. The following is a very powerful practical argument for the neceſſity of air and exerciſe. Many years ago, a certain gentlemen had imported an Arabian, for which he was offered ſeven hundred

dred pounds; he would have an even thouſand, and on that determination kept his horſe ſo long in a hot ſtable in London, that he became conſumptive, and about a fortnight before his death, was ſold for twelve or thirteen pounds at Tatterſalls.

No arguments can be required by readers of common ſenſe, in ſupport of the neceſſity of EXERCISE for horſes kept within doors; that is to ſay, out of their natural ſtate, in order to preſerve them in health, or in apt condition for labour; all that remains is to remind men of the duty, to deſcribe its moſt advantageous method, and due portion. In truth, it is a buſineſs in general either totally neglected, or conducted upon very erroneous principles.

Exerciſe is two-fold, either calculated for common occaſions, and the mere preſervation of health, or for the purpoſe of fitting a horſe to undergo extraordinary exertions. The firſt intent may be fully anſwered by WALKING EXERCISE alone, and I can, from long experience, aſſure thoſe keepers of coach and road-horſes, who ſend their boys out to rattle and flurry them over the hard ground, and even the ſtones of the metropolis, by way of ſalutary exerciſe, that they are miſerably wide of their mark; but the abſurdity of the fact is dreadful indeed, when we know that even ſinew-ſtrained, groggy, and foundered horſes, are *exerciſed*

in exactly the ſame mode, and often up and down the ſtoney mews in the metropolis.

This is to add to the miſchiefs of real labour, inſtead of imparting the benefits of recreation; and horſes which are hot and choleric, are materially injured in temper and appetite, by the ill-judged and boiſterous exerciſe of ordinary ſtable-lads. Nobody will ſuppoſe theſe remarks are intended to apply to regular grooms, and convenient grounds. Where the caſe is otherwiſe, a horſe may be kept in fine condition by regular and faſt walking, as deſcribed in the Firſt Volume, beſides being by ſuch means trained to that excellent pace. Two hours a day, either at once or twice, will be commonly ſufficient; otherwiſe four hours, and what more the horſe may demand, the owner had infinitely better perform himſelf, than intruſt it to his ſervants. Few perſons but thoſe acquainted with the tactics of regular ſtables, have adequate ideas of the efficacy of walking exerciſe, in keeping down fleſh, opening the lungs, and facilitating muſcular action. I have heard of a horſe which ran three four mile heats, over the ſands of Leith, without having previouſly had a ſingle canter.

The in-door exerciſe of the looſe-ſtable has been adverted to, that abroad in the paddock, or encloſed yard, is admirable, where a horſe may be daily turned out, the weather permitting,

ting, with or without his ſheet, as he has been accuſtomed, with the happieſt effects to his limbs and feet. Unſound or ſhaken horſes ſhould ever be permitted to exerciſe themſelves, but where convenience admits not of it, they ought to be led, never ridden, on any ſtupid or indolent pretence whatever.

A neceſſary part of ſtable diſcipline is to ſet a horſe now and then upon the bit, between the pillars, that is to ſay, between the ſtall poſts, his tail toward the manger, a rein on each ſide attached to the poſts, communicating with the cheeks of the bridle. This ſerves to correct the errors of the mouth, to elevate the head, and ſet the horſe upon his haunches; it is a ſpecies of exerciſe, and contributory to digeſtion. A horſe which has a will of his own, may be in ſome degree reclaimed by being frequently lunged around a ring, as is the cuſtom in breaking colts. If a horſe's mouth ſhould become tender from ſevere bits, or is naturally ſo, that he throws up his head and is afraid to ſtep out, the only remedy is a ſnaffle with a large mild bit, ſuch as is uſed for colts. It is poſſible that the ſame method might alſo reclaim a callous mouth, which ſevere bits never fail of the effect to render ſtill more dead and obdurate.

The propriety of exerciſe on an empty ſtomach will not be diſputed, I go ſomewhat

farther; in journey-riding, it is a favourite practice with me, to go a twenty-mile ſtage to breakfaſt, and I have often thence experienced great benefit, both to myſelf and hackney, in the expulſion of wind, and unlading the bowels.

Thus much may ſuffice on the head of ordinary exerciſe; in reſpect to that ſpecies which may be ſtyled extraordinary, or training, I need only ſpeak of it in this place, as it regards the HUNTER.

The regular HUNTER, whoſe work is of courſe ſevere and conſtant throughout the ſeaſon, ought in common juſtice, and in the benign feelings of the true ſportſman, to have the whole remainder of the year to himſelf, which ſhould be divided between the looſe ſtable and the paſture; ſo ſhall he make his appearance in the ſeaſon, in condition to top every fence, and to be up with the ſtaunchеſt and fleeteſt hounds; and from continuing ſucceſſive years, ſhall become as fond of the ſport, and as expert at his buſineſs, as the huntſman himſelf.

The interval between taking the hunter from graſs, and the commencement of the hunting ſeaſon, is to be ſpent in purging and training him. Having trimmed and clothed him at your diſcretion, give him walking exerciſe twice a day, avoiding the heat, for about ten

ten or twelve days, at the end of which period he may take his firſt doſe of phyſic; two or three doſes will be ſufficient, and a week after the ſetting, in other words, ceſſation of the effect of the laſt doſe, his gallops may commence.

I ſhall ſuppoſe myſelf addreſſing thoſe entirely unacquainted with the ſubject. Galloping exerciſe ſhould ever be performed on ſoft and dry ground; and the ſound elaſtic turfs of Newmarket, and the Curragh of Kildare, are juſtly eſteemed the moſt excellent for that purpoſe of any in the world. The concuſſion ſuffered by the joints and ſinews, from conſtant exerciſe upon hard ground, counteracts in a conſiderable degree the very end of training; and where ſuch inconvenience ſubſiſts, walking exerciſe ſhould be chiefly depended upon.

The Hunter ſhould be taken out twice a day; in the morning, and after the heat of the day is over. If waſhy and delicate, he ſhould be galloped only in the morning. The proper exerciſe rate is a long ſteady canter, in which the groom preſerves a jockey-ſeat, bearing upon his knees; this rate is ſufficiently quick and ſtriding to exerciſe the wind and ſinews of the horſe, and to fit them by degrees for their utmoſt capability of exertion; at the ſame time it neither irritates, fatigues, nor ſweats, all which muſt be religiouſly avoided. After the

hunter's fleſh ſhall have become hard, his muſcles tenſe and firm, and his wind free from obſtruction; in a word, when he approaches the ſtate of high condition, an occaſional burſt of ſpeed may be encouraged, if thought neceſſary, but I know not that ſweats are ever given to hunters, which indeed could not be otherwiſe than detrimental, both in reducing them too low, and rendering them too ſuſceptible of cold.

A walk of twenty minutes is proper before the gallop, for which laſt a riſing ground is preferable, and the moſt advantageous length is about a mile and a quarter: this performed, walk to water, after which walk again a reaſonable time, and repeat the gallop; another courſe of walking at the eaſe of the horſe, ſo as to continue the whole to the period of about two hours from leaving the ſtable, concludes the morning exerciſe: circumſtances may render it neceſſary to abridge this courſe in the afternoon, or even intirely to omit it. Thus in two or three months may the hunting-horſe be put into a proper ſtate to exhibit his beſt performance in the field.

If he be a young horſe, or one which has never been in the field, of courſe there is a neceſſity of teaching him to leap. Accuſtom him to ſee a ſteady leaper go over the bar; then lead him to it, well covered with furze,

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and about breaſt high, a perſon always ſtanding behind with a whip, to make him clear his hinder-legs; when he is tolerably expert he may be ridden over, the height being encreaſed by degrees. Patience, coolneſs, ſhort leſſons, which do not tire or irritate, and moderate heights only, are the true methods to form a good and ſafe ſtanding leaper. As to flying leaps, they are beſt learned in the field; in truth, any horſe will take flying leaps after a pack of hounds. A hard feeder during this exerciſe will eat and digeſt well a peck and a half of corn a day, in the following routine; half a peck in the morning, a quarter at twelve o'clock, another quarter at four, and half a peck at night. It may be remarked of all animals applied to domeſtic purpoſes, that ſuch as have the legs and ſpine ſhort, and the loins wide and ſubſtantial, are endowed with the moſt perfect digeſtive faculty, and in conſequence have the power of extracting the largeſt portion of nutriment from a given quantity of food. This conſideration may be had in view, in apportioning the feeds of horſes, and in the purchaſe of animals for the fattening ſtall.

I muſt by no means omit in this place, to caution the ſportſman againſt the too frequent uſe, which is the abuſe, of cordial balls, ſo highly in vogue amongſt liquoriſh and ſweet-toothed grooms, and the intereſted venders of veterinary

veterinary panaceas. Bracken ſurely acted without his accuſtomed caution, in recommending ſo indiſcriminately this favourite noſtrum; and his recommendation ſet all the northern grooms in particular, cordial ball mad. In caſes where cordials are indicated, almoſt any of the forms of the *paſta hyppiatria*, may ſucceed, but the conſtant uſe of the cordial balls, adopted in ſome ſtables, is not only a ſuperfluous expence, but I have known it attended with very ill effects upon the porous ſyſtem, and ſtomachs of horſes. As an example take the following. A certain training groom recommended a Yorkſhire lad to the care of a ſtable of as high-bred and good hunters as any in England. In the height of the ſeaſon the gentleman complained, that although he had gone to a vaſt expence, and purchaſed, as he ſuppoſed, the beſt cattle, not one of them would ſtand a hard day's work in the field, but that after an hour's riding, they became waſhy and faint, ejected their meat continually, and were ſo light in the carcaſe, that they were ready to ſlip their girths. On examination of the horſes, and the conduct of the young groom, it appeared that the miſchief had ariſen from his conſtant ſtuffing them, morning and night, with cordial balls, which from the quantity of ſulphur they contained, and their general aperitive quality, had the

above deſcribed effects: thoſe balls being totally diſcontinued, the carcaſes of the horſes became hard, and they performed their buſineſs in the higheſt ſtyle.

The practice of riding rough hunters, or ſuch as are ſuffered to run abroad all winter, was formerly much extolled by a few particular people. Horſes in that trim were ſaid to be very hardy, and weather-proof, and it was even aſſerted that they ran equally ſtout with thoſe in the higheſt condition. I have no belief for irrational aſſertions upon any ſubject, the primordial circumſtance ſimply, of their irrationality, being, in my opinion, a ſufficient confutation. Poſſibly ſome hardy-conſtitutioned horſes may have performed well in ſuch an unfavourable plight; which ſaid horſes would no doubt have been capable of atchieving ſtill greater feats in higher condition. Even the riding a horſe in ſuch a bear's ſkin, muſt detract much from the meritorious pride and pleaſure of a ſportſman. Any graſs given with corn, muſt neceſſarily leſſen the hold of the hard meat upon the body of the horſe, but more eſpecially the faint and waſhy herbage of the winter: I ſhould ſuppoſe the riſks of catching cold increaſed by this method, by no means an improper one, to lay a foundation even for the glanders. To allow the hunter to walk about in a paddock, and cool his limbs,

liſhbs, an hour or two in the middle of his leiſure days, with his clothes and breaſt-plate upon him, is a practice as excellent as it is widely different from the foregoing.

The next conſideration is that of SOILING the horſe; without poſſibility of diſpute, one of the firſt magnitude. To feed, lie, and roam at large, upon the graſs of the earth, and to have his body conſtantly wetted with the dew of heaven, is the natural ſtate of the horſe, in which, by conſequence, he muſt enjoy a ſuperior portion of health and happineſs, and without an occaſional recurrence to which, he can only poſſeſs a partial and imperfect ſhare of either. I ſhall, therefore, in place of argument, appeal to men's conſtant experience, and without heſitation, lay it down as a rule, that in order to cool and re-invigorate the limbs, and purify the blood and juices of horſes, and to enable them to endure to their lateſt period, it is abſolutely neceſſary that they be allowed an annual run, of at leaſt ſix weeks at ſpring graſs. Where horſes cannot be ſpared from the ſtable, the uſual ſubſtitute in town, is to ſoil them at home upon green tares; this, at leaſt, ſurely never need be omitted, being within the reach of almoſt every keeper of horſes. I will barely repeat the old caution, to give the green meat freſh, becauſe if kept till its juices be exhaled, it not only becomes

becomes uſeleſs as to the original intent, but tough and indigeſtible, and apt to occaſion dangerous obſtructions.

In my opinion, natural graſs is ſuperior, and more likely to anſwer the intended purpoſe of ſtable ſoiling, than tares or any other herbage; from repeated trials I have found, that horſes and horned cattle prefer it to all other green meat, without even excepting the ſo often and highly celebrated lucern. The great bulk of the artificial graſſes is an important object, but no doubt, I conceive, can be entertained of the ſuperior quality of the natural, either green or dry. When the vaſt conſequence of graſs is conſidered, both in relation to quantity and quality, the neglected ſtate of our meadows and paſture lands, in many parts of the country, may well be wondered at, and the queſtion naturally aſked, why the ſimple herbage ſhould not be cultivated with the ſame care and aſſiduity as corn: I have known it repay immenſely the expence of manure, of pure and good ſeed brought from a conſiderable diſtance, and of the moſt attentive culture. There cannot be a more improvident practice, whether in a public or private view, than withholding ſo tenaciouſly old, foul, unproductive meadow from the plough; the breaking up of which would pay ſo abundantly in the firſt inſtance, and ſtill more largely in the ſucceeding

ſucceeding graſs crops. It is obvious nothing more is needed, in this caſe, than to adopt improved methods of laying down to graſs.

Previous to turning a horſe to graſs, it has been the cuſtom with ſome to call in the aſſiſtance of medicine; I confeſs I know of no neceſſity for ſuch ſteps, with the exception indeed, that if the horſe ſhould be exceſſive plethoric, or full of blood, dull and heavy-eyed, it would be highly proper to bleed him a few days before his departure: the eyes of horſes, in ſuch ſtate of body, are in great danger while feeding abroad. Abridge his clothing, and accuſtom him to the cold by degrees; and if you turn him into the paſture upon the approach of night, according to the advice of (I think) Mr. Marſhall, it will be an additional ſecurity againſt catching cold; ſince the charms of his new ſituation will induce him to rove about, until the morning ſun ſhall have prepared him a warm and dry couch, on which he may repoſe in ſafety.

If the feet be too ſtrong and deep, take down the cruſt with diſcretion, that the frog may come fairly in contact with the earth. The proper graſs ſhoes are narrow tips, juſt wide and long enough to cover the cruſt, and prevent its being broken, and the inſpection of the farrier is neceſſary, at leaſt once a month, to replace in caſe of wear or accident, and to prevent

prevent the too great length of the toe; in very dry ſeaſons, and hard paſtures, and where horſes are much driven by the flies, their feet will demand conſtant attention, or they may come up with the cruſt ſo ſplintered and damaged, as ſcarcely to afford ſufficient hold for a ſhoe. If a ſervant be ſent to inſpect horſes at graſs, and there ſhould be a neceſſity for employing a country blackſmith, care ſhould be taken to reſtrain him from his favourite operation upon the frog, the binders, or the ſole.

The graſs of the ſalt-marſhes is univerſally celebrated for its alterative and reſtorative qualities; it powerfully provokes the different ſecretions at firſt, until having become habitual to the conſtitution, it nouriſhes in the ſame degree: the farriers ſay, it will cure every malady of the horſe except rottenneſs; and theſe doctors imitate their betters, who when they have ineffectually exhauſted the whole Æſculapian art upon a patient, always ſend him to Bath. Thoſe paſtures within reach of the London manure, are deemed inſalubrious on that account, as being forced and rank; the graminious product of low, fenny ſoils, is alſo ſour, and defective in nouriſhment; ſweet, herbaceous, upland graſs having in all accounts, the preference for horſes: hilly paſtures are preferable,

preferable, and in a ſtill higher degree for foals.

In our fortunate climate, ſo free of dangerous extremes, a horſe may run all the ſummer in defiance of heat or inſects, and will be much better in health than he could poſſibly be kept in the ſtable; but if only the uſual period of ſoiling be allowed him, that is to ſay, a month or two, no doubt but every one would chooſe to have it early, whilſt the graſs is young, and the heat moderate; choice ſhould alſo be made of paſtures well ſhaded, and well watered.

Cutting graſs, and carting it to the ſtable, is an immenſe ſaving upon a farm, greater, indeed, than I could conceive, until I repeatedly made the experiment, the quantity of dung alſo raiſed by that means is an important conſideration; but the attendant inconvenience is the keeping horſes ſhut up in a hot and unwholeſome ſtable, at the very ſeaſon when lying abroad is ſo natural and beneficial to them; in truth, poor animals, it is a treſpaſs upon their health and their feelings, it is abridging the too ſcanty reward of their never-ending labours.

Every body knows that there are ſalt-marſhes, a few miles to the eaſtward of the metropolis, where horſes are received; and, I believe, intelligence thereupon is uſually to be obtained

obtained at one of the inns in Smithfield. As to the other places of reception for grazing horſes around London, I think the different parks applied to that purpoſe are to be preferred, on account of the ſecurity, good attendance, range, and ſhade. I can ſpeak of the merits of Buſhey and Kempton Parks as excellent feeding grounds, from having ſent horſes thither both in winter and ſummer, ſeveral ſucceſſive years; whence I never failed to have them return full of firm good fleſh. I once purchaſed a ſix year old cart-horſe, apparently in the laſt ſtage of a conſumption, for thirty-ſix ſhillings; whilſt at home, he always required the help of men to lift him up when down; with ſome difficulty we travelled him to Buſhy Park, but in leſs than two months, the caſe was ſo happily altered, that he came back without any trouble, and fat enough for bacon. The charge, according to my recollection, uſed to be three ſhillings *per* week in ſummer, and four in winter; when beſide the range of the park, they had hay allowed in a good warm ſtraw-yard.

A WINTER'S RUN AT GRASS, from the aſtrictive effect of cold upon the animal fibre, is juſtly held the moſt natural and efficacious method of recovering the tone of the ſinews in over-worked horſes; it is farther much to be preferred, as well on the ſcore of expence

as of health, to ſtanding unexerciſed, and uſeleſs in the ſtable: the only queſtion is, how to carry this meaſure into effect, with judgement.

Small indeed is the advantage, in any point of view, of the common ſhilling and eighteen penny methods, of turning a horſe off to ſtarve all the winter upon ſtraw; for the benefit which may be ſuppoſed to be derived to his limbs, will perhaps be fully counter-balanced by the impoveriſhment of his blood, and the conſequent ruin of his condition; and when taken up with his diſtended carcaſe, long coat, and bare bones, half a ſummer had need be ſpent in bringing him to decent order, either for uſe or ſale: the ſpring graſs is the beſt remedy to repair the waſte of a winter ſo ſpent, and even then his fleſh will melt in work like butter. To be wintered abroad to any ſalutary purpoſe, a horſe muſt have plenty of good hay, and ſufficient ſhelter by night or day, againſt the inclement extremes of the ſeaſon, in a dry hovel, or warm ſtraw-yard; but if to this ſhould be ſuperadded a moderate daily allowance of corn, ſuch a method would be the moſt powerful reſtorative, of which the nature of the horſe is ſuſceptible. Certain of the hardy, common-bred, thick-hided horſes, will endure the utmoſt rigours of the winter unſheltered, and make a tolerable ſubſiſtence upon

upon the faint and unſubſtantial herbage of the ſeaſon; but even theſe would be better by all the coſt, for more liberal keeping; others will make a ſhift barely to exiſt under ſuch harſh treatment, and a random view of this leads inconſiderate people, who have a general idea of the benefits of a winter's run, to commit the barbarous folly of expoſing emaciated and thin-ſkinned horſes, perhaps juſt taken from a hot ſtable, upon open heaths or marſhes, where they are literally tortured to death by the cold; and I have myſelf ſeen ſuch dying by inches, under all the horrors of an intermittent. *Omne nimium vertitur in vitium.* Nature ſhrinks from extremes, and expands herſelf to the moderate and gradual application only, of the moſt proper remedies. Experience fully proves, that all the domeſtic animals of Northern climates ſhould be ſheltered by night, during the winter ſeaſon.

In a former chapter, I have exhorted the owners of good horſes, who have little or no uſe for them during the winter, to ſend them to paſture, as a material branch of the humane and œconomical plan of lengthening the period of their ſervices; all that I have need to add farther upon this head, is, to give a caution that frequent inſpection be made as to their treatment whilſt at ſtraw-yard, and that it be by no means omitted, to promiſe a re-

ward to the overlooker or ſervant in whoſe care they are placed.

I ſhall conclude this chapter, with an endeavour to afford a few uſeful hints, upon a ſubject which has long, and more than once to my coſt, engaged my attention, and which I am ſure will immediately intereſt the feelings of too many of my readers; I mean that opprobrium of our laws and police, the practice of HORSE-STEALING. The ſubject is brought more particularly to my recollection at this time, from accounts which I have received of very conſiderable depredations of horſes and cattle committed in the neighbourhood of Dulwich, one of which was attended with a curious circumſtance. A gentleman of that place loſt a favourite colt, of which in about three weeks, he accidentally read a deſcription in an advertiſement. He found the colt about forty miles diſtance from home, which, however, the advertiſer at firſt refuſed to ſhew him, and he was under the neceſſity of making application to the mayor of the town. The perſon having the colt in poſſeſſion, had it ſeems, purchaſed it about three weeks before, and had paid half a guinea earneſt, with a promiſe to remit the remainder. This he failed to do, and the ſeller (a very honeſt man no doubt) had the audacity to arreſt him. After this quarrel between friends, the colt was advertiſed. My readers will

will not fail to apply a certain old proverb, ſo very appoſite to this occaſion.

I have revolved in my mind a number of different ſchemes, for the recovery of ſtolen horſes, all which ſeem to be clogged with inſuperable difficulties. I have ſometimes thought, that through the medium of the Poſt Office, a plan might be practicable of ſending inſtantly a deſcription of a loſt horſe, to every pariſh in the kingdom; but of that, I ſuppoſe, the expence would be too conſiderable. It is ſaid the laws, which regulate the ſlaughtering of horſes, are not ſufficiently preciſe, nor the penalties conſiderable enough. In fine, a horſe which may ſuddenly be moved to a great diſtance, and ſo eaſily diſpoſed of, particularly in times of briſk export, is ſuch a temptation to the diſhoneſt and profligate, and the chances of recovery are ſo few, expenſive, and uncertain, that there appears but little hope in any but meaſures of prevention, in the firſt inſtance. The beſt ſecurity that I know of, is to lock upon the ſhank, or paſtern of the animal, a caſe-hardened and file-proof iron-ring, lined with ſome ſoft material to prevent chafing, and bearing the owner's name and place of abode; ſome gentlemen have preferred the fixing a collar upon the neck, which is rather more expenſive, and, perhaps, leſs ſecure from the file; but in either caſe, the price would not be any great object. It is granted there would be no

abſolute ſecurity in this plan, ſince thieves get their bread by their ingenuity; but it would certainly place a very formidable difficulty in the way of the exerciſe of their calling. There are few thieves, I think, but who, on inſpection, would prefer a horſe without this troubleſome mark upon him. Granting a man did his buſineſs at random, and blundered upon a horſe in the dark bearing the aforeſaid mark, as ſoon as the light ſhould enable him to diſcover it, he would, no doubt, run away from his new and dangerous bargain, as faſt as he would from a thieftaker. Suppoſe even a man went prepared with tools, proper to deſtroy the iron, he muſt have an aſſiſtant, and the operation would demand ſome time, which would riſk a diſcovery. In caſe of ſtrays, the ſecurity is complete. But, in all caſes, it ſeems, the preſent trouble is ſuppoſed to outweigh the eventual benefit of precaution; that I leave to the calculation of thoſe who are intereſted.

Here follow the formulæ of thoſe remedies preſcribed in the preſent chapter.

TOBACCO INFUSION. Infuſe two ounces of the ſtrongeſt tobacco, twelve hours, in half a pint of camphorated ſpirits and brandy, equal quantities, ſtirring as often as poſſible. Touch with the infuſion, or apply pledgets of the tobacco.

CAMPHORATED ELDER OINTMENT. Into half a pound of ointment of elder, ſtir and mix well

well ſix drachms of camphor finely powdered, moiſten, if needful, with ſpirits: add, when deſired more cooling and repellent, three drachms ſugar of lead in very fine powder.

SOAP LINIMENT. Mix ſoft ſoap, a ſmall quantity of Venice turpentine, fuller's earth and vinegar or brandy; if neceſſary add a ſmall quantity of linſeed oil: ſpread on tow.

COOLING REPELLENT WHITE OINTMENT. White wax ſix ounces, melt it in three pounds of oil olive, add by degrees one pound of ceruſe finely powdered: if deſired more repellent, add one ounce of ſugar of lead; rub the ſugar of lead, well powdered, in a ſmall quantity of the oil firſt, then mix.

OINTMENT for the paſterns of horſes liable to crack in exerciſe: mix hogs lard and linſeed oil, two parts lard to one of oil; ſtir well into the maſs, French brandy, after the rate of a gill to half a pound. Touch the cracks frequently with brandy.

LEGS SWELLED of young horſes, from long ſtanding, or work. Bathe with diſtilled vinegar, to a quart of which may be added two ounces of camphorated ſpirits. Or, a bath for the legs of cold ſpring water, continued ten or twelve minutes: rub thoroughly dry with a linen cloth, ſo gently as to cauſe no heat.

EMOLLIENT AND DISCUTIENT FOTUS OR BATH. Boil wormwood, camomile flowers,

mallows, bay leaves, tanſy, and roſemary, of each ſix handfuls in a gallon of water ſlowly, to three quarts, mix the three quarts with water in a ſtrong tub, in which bath the horſe's two legs may be placed as warm as is convenient, and there kept as long as the heat continues. Warm it afreſh for the hind-legs.

PAINS IN THE SHANKS, AND SHINS, OF RACERS. Poppies bruiſed four ounces; lavender, elder-flowers, and camomile, each three or four handfuls; boil in ſix pints of water, ſtrain off three pints, and add three ounces of camphorated ſpirits: uſe the mixture warm, twice a day, with ſponge or flannel, to the legs and joints, when the horſe comes in from exerciſe, the laſt thing after dreſſing.

SATURNINE STRENGTHENING EMBROCATION. Beſt diſtilled vinegar, one pint; *aqua vegeto* made with one pint of water, and three tea ſpoons of Goulard's Extract of Saturn, two ounces of oil of turpentine: mix. A quantity of this ſhould be kept cloſe corked for ſtable uſe, as it improves by keeping: its ſtrength may be varied by the increaſe or diminution of the quantity of Goulard's extract; but I have ever found the preſent form ſufficiently ſtrong, in this intention.

RUNNING THRUSH: when this has become inveterate, fetid, and diſcharges much, deterge and

and heal it with either of the following: *Ægyptiacum* half an ounce; brandy and diſtilled vinegar of each one ounce; tincture of myrrh-aloes one ounce, mix. Bathe twice a day, and charge with tow dipped therein. Or, quench unſlacked lime in vinegar, ſtrain, and uſe the liquid hot. Or, diſtilled vinegar; oak-bark finely powdered, and whites of eggs. Should the diſcharge ſtop very ſuddenly, purge, or give alteratives; indeed, if it be a natural thruſh, no aſtringents can be ſafely uſed, without concomitant internals of the alterant or purgative claſs, for fear of a *metaſtaſis*, or tranſlation of the humour to ſome other part; a much worſe conſequence than the natural defect.

CHAP. III.

FARTHER CONSIDERATIONS ON DRAUGHT OXEN.

SINCE treating upon this national and important ſubject, in my Firſt Volume, I have uſed every means of enquiry in my power, and have paid perſonal attention to the labour of oxen, both at plough and cart: the reſult

reſult I am deſirous to communicate to the public.

The bullocks which I have ſeen at work, have been invariably the heavy, wide-horned, and thick-hided ſpecies, chiefly of the Staffordſhire and Warwickſhire breed, perhaps the moſt ſluggiſh and improper for the purpoſe of labour that could poſſibly be employed. Three or four of them ploughed three quarters of an acre *per* day, where the ſame number of horſes ploughed an acre in the ſame ſpace of time. The oxen were fed in a leſs expenſive manner than the horſes, having but little corn. They were ſhod, and performed very well upon the turnpike road, harneſſed in the common method of cart-horſes, but having no bits in their mouths; their tails were buckled up. I obſerved they all anſwered the whip, and laid well to their collars. This may be eſteemed the leaſt favourable account of labouring oxen, from the circumſtance of their being of the ſloweſt and moſt ſluggiſh breed; the accounts which I have received from friends in different parts of the country, are far more encouraging. The following particulars I received from the mouth of a Herefordſhire farmer, a man of veracity and long experience. My readers may, I believe, look upon his account as the firſt-rate performance of oxen in their preſent ſtate, and upon thoſe of Herefordſhire, from

from their ſuperior activity conſidering their weight, as the fitteſt for labour of any at this day upon the iſland.

An ox-team ploughs an acre in eight hours, performing the day's work with full as much eaſe and diſpatch as a team of horſes. The oxen are exceedingly handy, and may be driven with a heavy load to a hair's breadth. My informant is in the habit of carting lime from the diſtance of ſeventeen miles, both with ox and horſe-teams, and the former uſually beat the horſes by about an hour in the journey, taking the carts faſter up the hills. Oxen, by trial, have walked more miles in a given time than cart-horſes. They are fed (the oxen I mean) with hay and chaff, and but little corn.

The neat cattle, both of Herefordſhire and Shropſhire, are a ſuperior ſpecies in reſpect to form as well as ſize; the latter have the preference for the dairy; the former are reared to great ſize and beauty, by the judicious and ſpirited breeders of that county, and annually command extraordinary prices, as grazing ſtock, in Buckingham and Oxfordſhire. In Herefordſhire they put their bullocks to work at two years old, continuing them until five or ſix; but as during the late exceſſive prices of ſtock, occaſioned by this ruinous war, in which we are yet hopeleſsly engaged, every reſource has been anticipated, working oxen have been

commonly

commonly ſold to go to keep, at three and four years old. The price of a young bullock, fit to break for harneſs before the war, was from ten to ſeventeen pounds, ſince which it has been more than doubled. Indeed the price of live ſtock of all kinds, has been of late, and was on the commencement of the year 1797 ſo exorbitant, as ſcarce to ſeem deſerving of credit; now the exceſs is in ſome degree moderated. Berkſhire pigs of ſix weeks old, were ſold at eighteen ſhillings, and even a guinea each, or at nearly eighteen pence *per* pound alive. Shropſhire and Herefordſhire ſtores, ſuch as had uſed to come to the London feeders at about fifty ſhillings or under, were worth five or ſix pounds a piece in the country; it has even been aſſerted, that a Northamptonſhire breeder actually acquired fifty guineas in one year, from the produce of a ſingle ſow. But extremes of this kind carry the legitimate remedy within themſelves. The exceſſive price has ſet all thoſe in the country who had convenience, to pig-breeding; and competition in the market has already made great progreſs, and will ſoon complete the conſummation of bringing the price of the article to its proper level. In the meantime how came thoſe ſagacious and vigilant gentlemen, the anti-regratters, to ſuffer nature and the reaſon of things to prevail, and do the needful without

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their interpoſition? and anon, during an exceſſive plenty of corn, and large breed of pigs, will not they be ſo juſt as to acknowledge the general obligation to their old antagoniſts, for their aſſiſtance in relieving the markets by diſperſing the ſurplus? Theſe regulating gentlemen might confer much greater benefits upon our commerce, than ever ſuch have done, by opening offices for the ſale of bladders of fair wind to the induſtrious mariner; in a ſcheme of that laudable and rational nature, their negative merit might be conſiderable, ſince their utmoſt activity could do no miſchief, even though they ſhould rival in reputation the *femmes ſages* of Lapland!

But this is a ſubject which, in truth, joking does not befit, and gntlemen ought ſeriouſly to reflect on the nature and tendency of œconomical regulations, which may affect individual and general property in ſo conſiderable a degree, previous to an attempt to faſten them upon the country. Beſides, this is to touch a ſtring, which unfortunately ſeems deſtined never to vibrate but to the tune of barbarous and vulgar prejudice. Not only are farmers and dealers in corn and cattle excluſively to be condemned to arbitrary reſtriction, in their liberty and property, but they are made reſponſible even for the goodneſs of the ſeaſons. Does a wheat crop riſe light? Oh, it is nothing but

but the ſtale pretence of the raſcally monopolizing farmers; and there is ſcarce a Cheapſide cultivator, but has ridden over I know not how many counties, and with his own eyes beheld the greateſt bulk and ſuperabundance. To ſuch a pitch of madneſs are mankind to be led by their prejudices, that it is at this inſtant aſſerted, and firmly believed by great numbers, that independent of the preſent crop on the ground, there is now ſtacked and warehouſed in England, wheat ſufficient for three years conſumption! It may not be amiſs to caution thoſe gentlemen, who have a chief hand in furniſhing newſpaper paragraphs on the ſubject, that it too frequently happens in thoſe ſeaſons when the ſtraw is ſo ſuperabundant, that the corn is deficient in proportion; and ſo liable are even the moſt experienced perſons to miſcalculation and deception in theſe caſes, that I have actually known a field of ſtanding wheat, ready to cut, adjudged by neighbouring farmers, ſome of whom had lived near the ſpot forty years, to contain a load upon an acre round, which did not, when threſhed out, produce three quarters per acre. Even Mr. Young himſelf, whoſe experience, without any idea of compliment, muſt be greater than that of any other man, has been led into ſimilar miſtakes, as may be ſeen by his writings. Now that we have an unfavour-

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able harveſt, and the prices from a very natural, and, therefore, proper cauſe, are advancing, the cry is already beginning, the farmers are doing all they can to raiſe the price of wheat, when in fact, thoſe good folks have no more hand in the matter, probably not ſo much, as the exclaimants themſelves. When from the influence of a natural concatenation of cauſes and effects, prices advance, would you have the farmer refuſe the premium offered? For my part, I think it his duty, as well as that of every other man, to make the beſt price in his power of his own commodity; for the proper time of his bringing it to market, it is preciſely that which his own intereſt or inclination ſhall point out, and the general average of thoſe criterions will always produce the exact and proper time when the public ſhould have it. It is madneſs to attempt the diviſion of an indiviſible principle, and extreme puerility to call a thing property, and at the ſame time ſuppoſe it exempt from the general law of its nature. To trace the practical effects of the vulgar ideas about monopoly, we need only to look into the hiſtory of the late revolutions, almoſt every one of which has commenced with the hanging up half a ſcore of thoſe unfortunate citizens, who chanced either actually to poſſeſs, or who, "laid under the ſuſpicion of being ſuſpected" to poſſeſs, conſiderable quantities of corn.

corn. The following melancholy picture of the moſt fertile part of France, during the bloody reign of the Dictator, was given by Dubois Crancè, "Almoſt all the conſiderable farmers have been thrown into priſon. In *La Vendèe*, ſix millions of acres lie uncultivated, and five hundred thouſand oxen have been turned aſtray, without ſhelter and without owner." Such attrocities detract infinitely from the pleaſure which a lover of liberty muſt feel, even at the final eſtabliſhment of human rights; and they ought to form a moſt powerful argument with all parties, to diſcard little, mean, and fraudful ſophiſtries, to join hands in honeſty and truth, and thereby ſuperſede the fatal neceſſity of revolution.

The Ox being an animal of a meek and gentle ſpirit, and eaſily intimidated, it is highly neceſſary to uſe the utmoſt mildneſs and forbearance in breaking him to labour, and, indeed in driving him ever afterwards; a raſh and mad-headed fellow will ſoon ſpoil the tempers, and lower the worth of the beſt team of bullocks. They are apt to conceive attachments and antipathies, and to take alarm at perſons who have treated them ill. A fellow being diſcharged for miſconduct upon a certain farm in Herefordſhire, out of revenge, ſat up a malkin or ſcare-crow, in the place where he knew the ox-team would go to plough:

plough: As ſoon as the beaſts eſpied it they ſtarted, wheeled to the right about, and ran off with the plough, as though the devil himſelf had them in purſuit; and could not for a long time afterwards be perſuaded to work on that particular ſpot. On firſt beginning to plough with oxen, it is adviſable to engage a driver who is their countryman, and has been accuſtomed to attend the ſpecies.

In Suſſex, the uſe of oxen for the plough is general, and they perform well upon the ſtiffeſt clays of that county; it has even been aſſerted, that they hang better to the collar, in a long day, than horſes. The Suſſex beaſts are ſlower than the Hereford. Some farmers have put their bulls to work with good ſucceſs.

I muſt not omit to ſtate, that my Herefordſhire friend would by no means agree with me, on the ſuperior utility of polled oxen, aſſigning what ſome will think a curious reaſon for his opinion. He contended, that in his country the horn was of great uſe at plough, ſince with the ſtroke of it the maſter beaſt was always accuſtomed to correct his fellow, deviating from the right tract, and that ſuch ſervice was performed with wonderful ſagacity and addreſs. But whether or not I ought to give up my former opinion, in compliment to my friend's judgment, I have not yet ſufficient experience to determine. I have only to add on this

head, that for the information of thoſe who may be deſirous of raiſing a breed of polled oxen, I made enquiry of a ſaleſman in large buſineſs, as to the probability of obtaining them; whoſe anſwer was, that he could at any time, during ſpring or ſummer, undertake to procure half a dozen good ſized polled heifers and a bull, having two months notice.

The reader will recollect, and I dare ſay will not controvert my former ſtatement of the true jet of this buſineſs; namely, that all we had to do was to find more active oxen, and to aboliſh an irrational cuſtom, which leads us to be ſo attached to horſes. Gravely to ſet about proving the ſuperior advantage, public or private, of employing oxen inſtead of horſes, at the ſame time allowing the equal aptitude for labour of the former, would be ſuperfluous indeed. Now if the above accounts are to be relied on, there are oxen to be found, nearly if not altogether upon a par with horſes, both at plough and on the hard road, notwithſtanding no improvement in the breed, for that expreſs purpoſe, has ever been attempted; and what in my opinion is of great conſequence to the point in queſtion (that of activity) although it has never yet been the cuſtom to feed them well, or to aim at getting them in high condition, as we do horſes. On that account it probably is, that bullocks are ſometimes ſo

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dull and faint, and liable to ſuch dangerous accidents, from being over fatigued at work.

In Holland I have obſerved they keep their cows curried as fine as racers, and I have even been told they clothe them upon turning them out; and I think our labouring beaſts ought to be kept within doors in winter, fed with corn, and dreſſed in as careful a manner as our horſes.

The fair queſtion is, does an additional annual product of corn throughout the iſland reſult from the labour of horſes, ſufficient to reimburſe their ſuperior expence, and to counterbalance the profit of ſlaughtering the oxen, after their period of labour ſhall have expired? I ſhould ſuppoſe the negative of the propoſition moſt probable, and that we are merely ſacrificing to our prejudices, and to the venerable idol cuſtom, in uſing ſuch multitudes of draught horſes. Of the farther poſſible improvement of the breed of oxen, in point of activity, I ſhall not heſitate to ſpeak with confidence; nor to aver, that I know many farms (it is true they are not in Norfolk or Suffolk) the whole ploughing and carting buſineſs of which might be to the full as well performed, in all reſpects, by oxen, as it now is with horſes.

I lately obſerved] in one of the reviews [the Britiſh Critic] in the article of a pamphlet of

the late Lord Mountmorres, a very abrupt diſmiſſal of the preſent queſtion. The Critic ſays—" there is reaſon to imagine, that experience has proved the inefficiency of oxen as a ſubſtitute for horſes in ploughing, ſince it is found that the labour of one horſe is equal to that of two oxen; that the talents of the former are more various, and his exiſtence more durable." All that need be ſaid here, by way of anſwer to thoſe remarks, is, that there is little variety of talent in the cart-horſe, and ſcarce any of his duties of which the bullock is not equally capable; that this part of the queſtion can only affect the little farmer, who on the ſtrength of having his buſineſs more cheaply performed by oxen, may be the better enabled to keep a light brood mare to draw his market cart, or carry himſelf. But I introduce this quotation chiefly for the purpoſe of appriſing the reader, that there is ſaid to be much valuable information on the important ſubject of wheel carriages, in the pamphlet of the noble lord above-mentioned.

My intelligence from ſeveral different quarters in the Weſt, goes to the length of a decided preference of oxen, both at plough and cart, reſulting from long experience and fair trial; but at the ſame time I ought in juſtice to acknowledge, that my countrymen, the farmers of Eſſex, as far as I am acquainted, as poſitively

poſitively aſſert the ſuperiority of horſes, and even the almoſt impoſſibility of making any tolerable ſhift with oxen; at the ſame time, none of theſe gentlemen have ever made the experiment; but ſuch is their opinion *a priori*. To recapitulate, beginning with the obſervations upon this ſubject in the Firſt Volume:

In Hampſhire, a conſiderable farmer, keeping an equal number of horſes and of oxen, for the plough, found little or no difference in their ſervices.

In Northumberland, Mr. Culley, after thirty years experience, keeps one hundred and fifty draught oxen, uſing them two in a plough, with reins and no driver, and in carts, ſingle.

In Middleſex, an ox-team of the ſloweſt kind, having little, or perhaps no corn, ploughed three-quarters of an acre *per* day, where the horſe-team did an acre. Theſe bullocks alſo carted hay to London, returning as uſual with dung.

In Herefordſhire, the oxen with very little corn, beat the horſes both at plough and upon the roads, which are very hilly and ſtoney.

In Suſſex, oxen are uſed at plough with the greateſt ſucceſs.

In many parts of the Weſt of England, oxen are preferred to horſes, for both kinds of labour.

From theſe data, every one is at liberty to

draw ſuch inferences as to him may ſeem rational, but let it be no longer ſaid we want information upon the ſubject; I do not mean, however, to arrogate any merit of diſcovery to myſelf, ſince, in this caſe, I profeſs to be guided by the information of others. Let it be conſidered, that the number of horſes employed in agriculture, and for the different purpoſes of ſlow draught, in Britain, probably exceeds ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND, and that if only one half of thoſe could with propriety be changed into good wholeſome beef, how immenſe muſt be the ſaving; it being taken into the account, that the time approaches, with fearful ſtrides, when national œconomy alone can ſave us from impending deſtruction. In two reſpects, I may perhaps pretend to ſome little originality of thinking on this ſubject; to wit, on the more liberal feeding, and the breeding the ox to greater ſpeed. Every one who has entered into the philoſophy of laborious exertion, and attended the practice, whether in men or animals, muſt be convinced how much it depends upon ample and ſolid nutriment. Every adept in the myſteries of the ſtable, well knows how contributory are cleanlineſs, and keeping the perſpiration open and free, by regular diurnal frictions, to the nimbleneſs and hilarity of the animal. In regard to raiſing a variety of the

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ox, with the qualification of more than the uſual activity, where ſhould be the difficulty, ſince we have been long accuſtomed to vary and mould him at pleaſure into ſuch differing ſhapes and forms, as caprice or intereſt has prompted? Perhaps thoſe gentlemen who have been in the habits of breeding horſes for the turf, would ſucceed beſt in this purſuit: it is of great national importance, and not unworthy the attention of the good Lord Egremont, or the patriotic Duke of Bedford. Thoſe noble lords, who have ſo great an intereſt in the proſperity of the country, and in the affections of their countrymen, ſtand, as well becomes them, at the head of the firſt claſs of agricultural improvers, and are making the moſt ſpirited exertions to perfect the breed of live ſtock. The Earl of Egremont has given orders to return to ſuch of his tenants as ſhall have performed the whole labour of their farms with oxen, three *per cent.* upon the annual rent; an example highly deſerving of imitation.

This inſtant a number of the Annals of Agriculture, my favourite monthly recreation, is put into my hands. Mr. Arthur Young, jun. (I preſume the Rev. A. Young) after there ſtating, that the labouring ox, with proper management, gains two or three pounds *per* year, whilſt the horſe grows annually worſe,

obſerves, "that the ox requires no oats, and "inſtead of hay, is generally contented with "ſtraw." I muſt beg leave to hint to that reſpectable writer and agriculturiſt, my apprehenſion, that ſuch obſervations may have a tendency rather to retard, than forward, the public cauſe of employing oxen. The grand objection to bullocks for labour, is want of expedition, which, as I have before obſerved, can never be obtained from any animals, without ſolid and generous keep. It neither conſiſts with humanity, public or private intereſt, to labour the ox in low condition.

After a regular ſearch through the book-ſtalls, I have at length chopped upon the works of Leonard Maſgal, farrier to James I. By old Leonard, who was a worthy wight, and abhorred witchcraft as much as that learned conjuror and exorciſt his Royal Maſter, I am informed, that oxen were generally uſed and eſteemed ſuperior to horſes, for the plough, in his days; he mentions diſorders brought upon working oxen by poor keep, and their being ſubject in conſequence to lie down in the furrow, when they were with difficulty got up again; he recommends for them, barley in the ſtraw, which will, he ſays, keep them luſty and ſtrong; alſo to curry them like horſes, and conſtantly waſh their feet and claws. It was their cuſtom in thoſe days to work barreners.

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The ancients occaſionally purged their labouring oxen.

Mr. Young, in the number of the Annals above quoted, ſpeaks of a hornleſs breed of Devons, of a red colour, near Bridport; recourſe may eaſily be had thither, by a curious breeder. In breeding the ox for labour, the required points, in my opinion, are, clean and fine head and neck, deep ſhoulder, wide quarters, thin ſkin, ſilk coat; and thoſe qualities muſt be ſought among the Herefords, Yorkſhire ſhort-horns, North-Devons, and thoſe of Suſſex. I have ſeen exceeding faſt walkers amongſt the Yorkſhire cows; and ſome well-formed for labour, which appeared to be bred between Norman or Alderney ſtock, and Yorkſhire. At the foot of this account, however, I will readily acknowledge, that equal activity of exertion at dead pulls, or ability to lift great weights, with our beſt cart-horſes, muſt never be expected in the moſt improved breed of oxen; at the ſame time it muſt be conceded, thoſe qualities are not our material objects of purſuit.

I have already hinted at a circumſtance which, in every county, forms a conſiderable bar to agricultural and veterinary improvements; I mean the inveterate prejudices and obſtinate conceits of ſervants, which are patiently ſubmitted to, and their pretended ſkill implicitly relied

relied upon by indolent maſters. Bailiffs, grooms, huntſmen, farriers, and all of that deſcription, down to ploughmen and carters, attach an abſolute infallibility to ſuch peculiar uſages, good or bad, as they have been originally taught, which they will ſtruggle to maintain with unwearied zeal, either by open force or private fraud. They ſeem to miſunderſtand the very principle of ſervitude, obedience to orders, and are imprudently allowed to attach to their character a reſponſibility of a very different and incompatible nature. "Oh, oh, "ſir, leave it to me, and I'll warrant it," has been productive of a thouſand ridiculous errors. Many of theſe infallibles will poſitively refuſe to obey directions, alledging, very ſtiffly, that it muſt be a hard caſe, indeed, if they are ſtill to be taught their buſineſs. But what is ſtill more perplexing, ſome of them will pretend to comply, and even to be convinced, at the very inſtant, watching an opportunity to give the knowing wink to their fellows, as a ſignal that they fully intend either to neglect your orders, or if poſſible to render your intentions fruitleſs. What can be more ſtupid than the common practice in the country, of ſuffering ignorant carters to fat their horſes as if intended for the ſhambles; and even to ſteal corn for them beyond the ſtated allowance; to ſtuff them with various nonſenſical or harmful

ful noſtrums, under the idea of getting their coats fine, until the pampered animals are conſtantly in danger of their lives from the ſmalleſt exceſs of labour, or the moſt trifling accident? This ſtall-feeding cuſtom is a branch of the œconomical ſyſtem of theſe farmers, who ride forty miles to purchaſe a yearling for twenty pounds, in the hope of making a profit, by ſelling him for thirty-five at ſix years old; the annual expence of the horſe, in the interim, being twenty pounds, and the worth of his labour perhaps five.

Examples of the raſcally and wanton temerity of theſe maſter-ſervants are too numerous. In the laſt year, two grooms in Ireland, for a bet of a quartern of whiſkey, ran a hunter of high worth, at ſo lofty a leap, that the horſe's neck and both his fore-legs were broken in the attempt. I have myſelf had, beſides numbers of inferior accidents, two horſes ridden until they dropped down dead outright; and the loins of a valuable cart-horſe broken, by his being whipped under a heavy load againſt a hill; and let me here caution all thoſe who keep cart-horſes, never to ſuffer a horſe to be ſtrained by drawing too heavy a load, merely to ſave an idle lubberly fellow the trouble of hooking on another horſe.

It is not only neceſſary that the conduct of ſervants who have the care of cattle be ſtrictly watched,

watched, but that a punctual obedience to orders be ſtipulated and explained to them at their hiring. If a farmer ſhall chuſe to ſend his plough into the field with only a pair of cattle and one man, I ſee no poſſible right a hired ſervant can have to refuſe to labour in that manner, any cuſtom to the contrary notwithſtanding; ſince ſuch duty is clearly within his power, and ſince any detriment ariſing from his inferior performance at firſt, cannot fall upon him, but upon his maſter.

CHAP. IV.

ON PURCHASE AND SALE.

HORSES in this country have hitherto been chiefly bred for domeſtic uſe, thoſe exported being a ſmall number in proportion; at the concluſion of the preſent war, it is highly probable the foreign demand will be much greater than in times paſt, and may perhaps afford the country an opportunity of getting fairly rid of that ſurplus, which may, and ought to be replaced by neat cattle.

The marts for purchaſe in England, are country fairs and public ſhews, and the ſtables of

of dealers, where horſes are ſold by private contract; and in towns, repoſitories, where they are put up to ſale by auction.

Previous to the war, Engliſh horſes of the ſhewey kind, for the purpoſes of luxury, and ſome few for the breeding ſtud, were in demand throughout the continent; but the French were our beſt cuſtomers. As a proof of the high repute of Engliſh nags, they were ſent as far as Vienna, notwithſtanding the proximity of that city to the famous breeding countries of the Eaſt. Both the late and preſent Emperor, and the Archduke Charles, were conſiderable purchaſers. The expence *per* horſe, from London to Vienna, is about twenty-three pounds. Before the war, the price of oats at the houſes of entertainment in Belgium and Germany, was generally about eight-pence *per* peck, the quality inferior to the Engliſh; the hay dearer than with us, and far inferior.

The principal breeding counties of England, are Yorkſhire, Northumberland, and Durham, for ſaddle and coach-horſes; Lincolnſhire, and the midland counties, Leiceſterſhire, Nottinghamſhire, Northamptonſhire, Warwickſhire, and Staffordſhire, for cart-horſes; and Suffolk, Norfolk, and the Iſle of Ely, for ſaddle and cart-horſes. There are alſo many horſes of all deſcriptions bred in the other counties, particularly

cularly in Herefordſhire, where the beſt live ſtock of all kinds is to be found. The Herefordſhire pigs have been for ſome years paſt, and are at this inſtant, ſuperior to all others, as the London feeders, who have a right to be the beſt judges, are ready to teſtify. I can ſafely recommend this breed to any gentleman agriculturiſt, who is curious in live-ſtock, as poſſeſſing moſt of that principle ſtyled "growth," and as likely to make the beſt return for their keep. They, with their neighbours of Shropſhire, are the real blood, or thorough-bred ſtock, of the hog-kind, and may not improperly be compared with the race-horſe for depth of ſhoulder and quarter, and general ſuperior ſymmetry. The old Berkſhire breed is nearly extinct, having been of late years univerſally adulterated and ſhortened by the mixture of China and Portugal ſtock. If any improvement has ariſen from the introduction of this foreign breed, it is, I believe, in the regard of hardineſs alone, a curious conſideration, ſeeing they are the production of a warmer clime.

The bargain for a horſe, is either attended with the WARRANTY of "ſound, free from "vice or blemiſh, and quiet to ride or draw," or he is ſold without warrant, to be taken with all faults; in which latter caſe, the buyer can have no right or pretence to return him, except he

he prove glandered, which exception I ſuppoſe ariſes from the illegality of ſelling any horſe in that ſtate.

Difficulties having ariſen, and various opinions prevailed, as to the preciſe definition of the term SOUND, I ſhall point out what has been hitherto the relative practice, and how far, in my own opinion, it conſiſt with equity. The late Lord chief juſtice Mansfield, I have been informed, laid it down as a rule, that any horſe ſold for more than ten pounds, ought in law to be ſound, of courſe returnable if otherwiſe; a determination inconſiſtent either with truth or equity in the firſt inſtance, which ought to be the ground of all law, and manifeſtly affording the purchaſer an undue advantage. An unſound horſe may be worth a thouſand pounds.

I ſhall define SOUNDNESS to imply, "not "diſeaſed, lame, blind, or broken-winded; nor "having, at the time of ſale, any impending "cauſe thereof." By cuſtom, three days trial are allowed the purchaſer, within which period the horſe ought to be returned for unſoundneſs: but if the defect lie hid, and the horſe can be proved to have been unſound at the time of ſale, a much longer detention does not bar the return of the horſe; on the other hand, if the ſeller can prove the ſoundneſs, it is preſumed the horſe has been damaged whilſt in the cuſtody

tody of the purchaſer, who in ſuch caſe muſt ſuſtain the loſs. In caſes of this nature, as well as all others, juſtice muſt depend on the laſt reſort, upon the judgment and integrity of the evidence.

The impending cauſes of unſoundneſs are various; ſuch as, rottenneſs, defects in the eyes, and wind; ſplents, and ſpavins. For example, a rotten horſe may be bought and ſold as a ſound one; his gaunt, hide-bound, and ill-favoured appearance, being attributed to bad uſage, and want of condition; but death in a few days may convince the buyer of his error. In juſt ſuch a predicament I found myſelf ſome years ago, when I purchaſed a mare of a noble Lord, for eighteen pounds, warranted ſound, which died rotten about ten days afterwards; her liver, on examination, appearing to be totally decayed. Doubtleſs I had a remedy at law, but my complaiſance extended ſo far, that I did not call upon his Lordſhip. A horſe may chance to be ſold in the inſtant that a cloud in the eye is beginning to occaſion partial blindneſs, inſtances of which I have witneſſed; or juſt before he becomes lame, from an initient ſplent, or ſpavin; in ſuch caſes, the defect muſt have exiſted at the time of ſale, the warranty was falſe, and the bargain is void. In caſe of warranting a one-eyed horſe, it is uſual to ſay, ſound, "barring the "eye;"

"eye;" but ſhould ſuch an one be ſold as ſound, without that remark, he would doubtleſs be returnable.

A diſtinction always exiſts in practice, between unſoundneſs and blemiſhes, which in fact accords both with truth and convenience: the latter may exiſt without impediment to the former.

BLEMISHES conſiſt of broken knees, loſs of hair in the cutting places, mallenders and ſallenders, cracked heels, falſe quarters, ſplents, or excreſſences which do not occaſion lameneſs; and I ſhould ſuppoſe, windgalls and bog-ſpavins, if they prevail to any great degree; theſe laſt may have been repreſſed, immediately previous to ſale, and may re-appear in a few miles riding. Neither windgalls nor bog-ſpavins impede a ſound warrant, provided the horſe does not go lame; it may be the ſame, probably, in reſpect to a falſe quarter, although, I think, I have never ſeen a horſe with the latter defect, which I ſhould have accepted as a ſound one.

The term QUIET, or FREE FROM VICE, implies, according to eſtabliſhed uſage, that the horſe is neither reſtiff, nor a *notorious* runaway, kicker or biter; and that he will quietly and obediently permit himſelf to be ſaddled, or accoutred, in the uſual way; this laſt however ſome dealers within my knowledge have ventured to diſpute. In the year 1779 I purchaſed

a black gelding, at a certain repoſitory, warranted ſound and quiet to ride. I had my doubts at the time of purchaſe, on account of the ſmallneſs of the ſum; fourteen guineas only, for a ſporting-like ſon of Engineer, ſix years old, and able to carry fourteen ſtone up to any hounds. I found him in truth ſound, and quiet enough to ride, without a ſaddle; but the attempt to ſaddle him coſt the labour of four men, and that at the extreme hazard of their limbs. A more improper nag could ſcarce be found for me, who could never ride without a ſaddle in my life. The dealer at firſt refuſed to take him back, on the allegation, that he did ride quiet, literally according to the warrant, and that it was no fault of his, if the horſe and my men fell out upon ſo trifling an affair as ſaddling; but the prevailing rhetoric of an attorney's letter gave him a rule, and ſhewed him cauſe to alter his mind. An exactly ſimilar inſtance occurred to a friend of mine laſt year, who dreading the law worſe than a vicious horſe, pocketed the affront.

The trial of a horſe's ſoundneſs ought to be committed to a perſon accuſtomed to horſes. Our judgment, as to the goodneſs of the wind, is now univerſally guided by the ſoundneſs of the cough; but independent of that criterion, the preternatural heaving of the flanks in a broken-winded horſe, will always be ſufficiently apparent,

apparent, if he be put upon a ſwift pace. It is neceſſary to try the new purchaſe in all paces, and even to ride him fairly a conſiderable number of miles, in order to diſcover any latent defect, or lameneſs of the ſinews, which may have been patched up with bandage and aſtringents, for the expreſs purpoſe of ſale. This method is very common, and frequently practiſed upon ſpeculation. A man ſays to himſelf, the ſoundneſs of this horſe is indeed very doubtful, I will warrant him however, and give him a chance, if he come back I ſhall be but where I was. The following piece of fineſſe I have known ſucceſsfully played off. A dealer has a horſe with a latent unſoundneſs. He ſays to the perſon cheapening him, "I will either warrant him "or not, as you pleaſe; if you will give me ſuch "a ſum, which is a ſound price, I will warrant "him a ſound horſe; but if you will give me "no more than ſo much, it is not worth the "warrant, particularly as you ſeem difficult, "and likely to make trifling objections; at ſuch "price you muſt take him with all faults." It is a frequent practice at the Repoſitory, for the auctioneer to ſay, "this horſe is ſound, but the "owner does not chuſe to warrant him." I apprehend however, ſuch declaration would in law amount to as ſufficient a warrant of ſoundneſs as a purchaſer could deſire: however it may be

in other caſes, the practice of the law encourages no deceptions in regard to horſes.

It is by no means proper to have a newly purchaſed horſe ſhod or trimmed, previous to a determination to keep him.

On this eſſential branch of the practice of horſe-dealing, few, I think, will be inclined to agree with Mr. Taplin, who, in his laſt publication, recommends "that no horſe ſhould be "deemed ſound, and ſold with ſuch warrant, "but a horſe in a ſtate of perfection, entirely "free from lameneſs, blemiſh, and defect, not "only at the time of transfer, but never known "to have been otherwiſe." Had Mr. Taplin made a perfect cure of an unſound horſe, he would, I have no doubt, warrant him ſound, if neceſſary to the ſale, notwithſtanding he had once been otherwiſe.

As to the choice, qualifications, and defects of horſes, I believe I have ſpoken ſufficiently in the Firſt Volume. Now for the accuſtomed ceremonial of examining a horſe, in order to purchaſe. Having already been made acquainted with the terms, and that the nag is quiet to approach, giving him ſome gentle warning with your voice, you go up to him in his ſtall on the near ſide, and laying your hand on his fore-hand, you proceed from thence to examine his eyes, mouth, and countenance; ſtill holding his head,

and

and turning your own to the right about, you have a view of the curve of his neck, the height of his fore-hand, and the poſition of his ſhoulder and fore-arm. Returning to his fore-hand, you deſcend to his legs and feet, minutely examining with your fingers every part from above below, withinſide, and without. You will not forget the virgin integrity of the knees, ſo much and ſo juſtly in requeſt: ſo difficult is this to repair, either by nature or art, when once violated, that I am almoſt tempted to add it as a fifth, to the four irrevocable things, *tempus, juventus, verbum dictum, & virginitas.*

Being ſatisfied reſpecting his fore train, your eye and hand will glance over his back, girting-place, carcaſe, and loin; thence proceeding to his hinder quarter, and the ſetting on of his tail. You will judge how far he agrees in each, and every reſpect, with thoſe rules of proportion already laid down. The hinder legs and feet will demand a ſhare of attention full as minute as the fore ones, and I muſt once again repeat my advice, that the inſide, or hollow of the hock, be not paſſed without due notice, (as is commonly the caſe) ſince it often happens that the injuries of hard labour are moſt apparent in thoſe parts. A ſurvey of the other ſide of the horſe concludes the ſtable examination.

Suffer no perſon belonging to the ſeller to be with you in the ſtall during your inſpection, that

the horſe may not be rendered unquiet, either deſignedly, or at the mere preſence of an habitual tormentor. A ſhort time ſince I had occaſion to examine a horſe for a friend, at the ſtable of a conſiderable dealer. It was a very beautiful and well-ſhaped nag, but as is commonly the hard fate of ſuch, appeared to have done too much work. The attendant, from a ſuperabundant ſhare of regard to my ſafety, muſt needs hold the horſe's head whilſt I examined his legs, ſtill aſſuring me he was perfectly quiet; nevertheleſs, every time I attempted to feel below his knees, the horſe ſtarted, and flew about the ſtall in a ſtrange manner, to the no ſmall riſk of my toes and ſhins. Whilſt I ſtood muſing, and wondering what beſide the devil could poſſibly ail the animal, I diſcovered a ſhort whip under the arm of the jockey, with which he had no doubt tickled the neck and cheſt of the horſe, whenever I ſtooped down with the intent of handling his legs. I wiſhed this adept good morning.

To any reader who may ſuppoſe I lay too great a ſtreſs upon a ſtable examination, I ſhall aſſign what I eſteem a very forcible reaſon; the examinant will by no means find ſo good an opportunity abroad, when the horſe, according to commendable cuſtom, ſhall have been fired, and ſet upon his mettle, and when his own attention muſt inevitably be divided. The ſtall is

alſo

alſo a good ſituation in which to judge of the temper of a horſe, his condition, ſound or infirm method of ſtanding.

Your intended purchaſe is now led out in all his glory, and ſo much care has been probably uſed, during the ceremony of bridling and combing, to arouſe his natural and ſupply him with an addition of artificial fire, that "ware-horſe" is by no means an unneceſſary caution to the by-ſtander. He is taken to a ſpot of ground raiſed for the purpoſe of ſhewing his fore-quarters to advantage. Here you have an opportunity of making another general ſurvey, in a good light. It is in this ſituation you muſt make a final judgment reſpecting that moſt material object his eyes, taking care to have his head placed favourably for your inſpection. The next conſideration is, the condition of his legs, that he ſtand ſtraight, and do not knuckle with his knees, that his joints do not tremble (the ſure indication of weakneſs) and that his feet are even and a juſt diſtance apart. Order him next to be walked forward in hand, placing yourſelf immediately behind him, that you may ſee how he divides his legs, whether he be ſtraight in his hams, and go ſufficiently wide behind, and cloſe before. Keep your poſition, and let him trot back (ſtill in hand) and you will perceive whether he bend his knees, and go free from

cutting or knocking, whether his feet be ſound, and his joints free from ſtiffneſs, or injury from hard labour.

After theſe preliminaries, you may permit the jockey in waiting to mount, who ought to exhibit a fair ſpecimen of every pace, walk, trot, canter, and gallop, you having placed yourſelf in the interim, about midway of his intended courſe, forward and back again; in which advantageous ſituation, you may command a view of the horſe, his figure and action, in all directions. In this part of the ſhew, the particulars to be noted chiefly, are how the horſe carries his head, the degree of freedom he poſſeſſes in his ſhoulders, whether he goes well above his ground, and ſafe, whether his haunches follow well, and without over-reaching, and whether he ſubmits to the touch of the ſpur without ſucking in his wind, and ſwelling, which is a ſure indication of a rebellious diſpoſition, and that he obeys with reluctance. As the concluding ſcene, the nag is brought back to that elevated ſpot juſt mentioned, when you take another curſory view of him, and he returns to his ſtable.

But I would adviſe no perſon, however accuſtomed to horſes, to purchaſe one for his own uſe, without previouſly riding him a trial himſelf; a privilege which no dealer of credit refuſes to the extent of two or three miles upon

upon the road, in company with himſelf or ſervant. It is undoubtedly the way to know all that can be well known of an animal, in ſo ſhort an acquaintance, firſt to ſee him ridden, and then to ride him yourſelf. You will be enabled to determine, how far his merit is to be attributed to the ſkill or ſpurs of the jockey, how far his condition and wind are to be depended upon, and whether he has been merely pampered for ſale; whether his carriage be adroit, careful, and ſafe, over rough ways; whether he be naturally ſhy and ſkittiſh, or has taken averſion to particular objects; and whether he trot down hill in a firm and compact way, naturally throwing his weight upon his haunches, and bearing light on the hand, or whether he lean forward, as if deſirous of uſing his noſe as a fifth leg. This laſt is a conſideration never to be overlooked. A hack that will not go well down hill, may fairly be pronounced good for nothing, were it only becauſe ſuch good qualification is generally the conſequence of being well-ſhaped, the backward poſition of the ſhoulder, and the inclination forward of the haunches, favouring the attitude moſt proper for deſcent. Laſt of all, there may be ſomething highly diſagreeable in the motions or carriage of a horſe, which a perſon can by no other means diſcover, than by actually riding him; and I have frequently heard

heard men of conſummate judgment acknowledge themſelves much deceived by truſting entirely to the ſhew.

Much obloquy has, in all periods, fallen upon dealers in horſes, who have been generally ſuppoſed more prone to trick and deception than any other claſs of traders; but this ariſes perhaps chiefly from the precarious nature of the commodity in which they deal, and amongſt a number of ſhabby and tricking fellows (which indeed are to be found in all trades) there are no doubt many fair and honourable men in this. Their method of preparing and decking out their goods for ſale, has always been vehemently decried as directly calculated for the purpoſes of deception: this is only in part true, that is, as far as the manœuvres are intended to conceal unſoundneſs; as no reaſonable objection can poſſibly be againſt their endeavours to ſet their horſes off to the beſt advantage. The grand complaint is on the behalf of humanity, the laws of which, upon thoſe occaſions, are always outraged, wherefore a change of meaſures would be a deſirable event, and this is evidently in the power of the buyers. Property, would it ſhake off its indolence and apathy, or would it be as ſedulous to cheriſh, as it ever has been to oppreſs, might work miracles of reformation.

I allude

I allude principally to the well-known ſtable diſcipline among dealers, of FIGGING and FIRING. The firſt is, to thruſt a corn (as it is phraſed) of ginger into the fundament of a horſe, or burden of a mare, the inſtant of being led out to ſhew, for the purpoſe of irritation, and of elevating the tail, which is thereby uſually cocked up in a monſtrous and ludicrous manner. Firing is the diſcipline of the whip, which is uſed to arouſe every ſpark of mettle in the horſe. This latter is an everlaſting ſource of cruelty, perpetrated by a race of brutal and inſenſible miſcreants, who would be as little ſcrupulous to derive gain from the torture of their own ſpecies. Horſes, whilſt in ſuch hands, live in a conſtant ſtate of apprehenſion and miſery. Almoſt every hour in the day, the tormenter goes into the ſtable, like a Weſt-Indian Negro-driver, whip in hand, and inflicts the cruelty of the laſh upon each horſe, in order to make him lively and apt to fly, even at the ſound of a man's foot; and this correction from habit, from a deſire of reaping all its imaginary benefit, and from ſuppoſed cauſes of offence, is often performed with the utmoſt force. But the barbarity is never ſo monſtrous, or rather helliſh, as when inflicted upon the debilitated and crippled objects of exceſſive labour. Too much of this is practiſed at the ſales of worn-out poſt-hacks and

and machiners; I once ſaw a poor mare, ſtone blind, exquiſitely ſhaped, and ſhewing all the marks of high blood, moſt unmercifully cut with the whip, about a quarter of an hour before the ſale, in order to bring her to the uſe of her ſtiffened limbs: it was a fruitleſs piece of cruelty, her labour was done, and ſhe was receiving her reward from the hand of ungrateful man! I ſaw the tears trickling down her cheeks, and to me it was an affecting ſight. All this barbarity is totally unneceſſary, for the intent of it is ſo generally known, that it can deceive nobody; nay it often has the effect of producing ſudden cramps in a horſe, and always of ſpoiling his trot upon a ſhew. I inſiſt upon it, from long obſervation, that all horſes are ſhewn to the beſt advantage by a moderate uſe of the whip. There is alſo a cruel folly prevalent among cow-jobbers, namely, that of ſtocking the cows, as it is called; they oblige theſe creatures to ſuffer the pains of retention, twenty-four or perhaps forty-eight hours, previous to ſale, that they may have a great ſhew of milk; as if all buyers of cows were not aware of the cuſtom, and of conſequence deception muſt be out of queſtion. The plea that any knowledge of the animal can be thence obtained, is ridiculous, for there are other rules of judging infinitely more certain, familiar to every experienced man. Many cows get inflamed and

even

even indurated udders from this practice, from which they never perfectly recover.

To return to figging and firing. The London dealers, with ſome few exceptions, permit no ſervant to ſhew a horſe without having previouſly figged him, under a certain forfeit. They aſſert, they are obliged to purchaſe horſes in the country ſhewn in that manner, and that they can do no leſs, in juſtice to themſelves, than to ſhew them under ſimilar advantages in town; the truth is, the cuſtom is inveterate among them, and they can ſee no beauty or merit in a horſe, unleſs he is transformed into a Merry-Andrew, and jumps about from ſide to ſide as if diſtracted, knocking his huggon-bones againſt every wall he goes near. But all this is but a poor recommendation to a man of taſte and judgment in horſes, and I am convinced the dealer thereby often miſſes his mark. As to the practice, as intended to favour deception, or cover unſoundneſs, the remedy is always in the purchaſer's own hands. "Mr. "Double-cut, unleſs you chuſe to keep the "whip intirely out of ſight of the horſe, and "the ginger out of reach of his ——, our "buſineſs is at an end; good-day; I wiſh you "a better cuſtomer."—*Prob. eſt.*

There is a prejudice ſomewhat general, but which holds much the ſame relation with truth

truth that prejudices generally do; namely, that good horſes are not to be found in the hands of dealers, and we frequently ſee it inſerted in an advertiſement, by way of additional recommendation of a horſe, that he does not belong to a dealer, or that he has never been in a dealer's hands. It is yet ſtrange, that a man whoſe living it is to deal in them, who has ſo many through his hands, who goes to the fountain head to obtain them freſh and young, and whoſe intereſt it is to ſell good horſes, ſhould have none of that kind to ſell; and ſomewhat more ſo, that a private perſon ſhould be deſirous of parting with ſo ſcarce and valuable a commodity. I will agree, that a ſecond hand good horſe is far preferable to a freſh bad one. But upon the average, young and freſh horſes muſt neceſſarily bear the premium; and if a dealer be careful to furniſh his ſtables with ſuch, no blame ought to attach to him; for were he to journey into the country, with the reſolution to buy none but good horſes, his journeys would be many, and his purchaſes few indeed.

Horſes go through the hands of ſeveral deſcriptions of perſons before they reach the metropolis. The conſiderable breeders ſell their colts to another claſs, whoſe buſineſs it is to keep them until they are fit for market and general

general uſe. Theſe laſt diſpoſe of their horſes either at their country fairs, or through the medium of particular connections in town.

The London horſe-dealers conſiſt of two claſſes, ſuch as conſtantly buy and ſell at repoſitories, and ſales by auction, their trade being chiefly confined to ſecond-hand horſes, for hackney work and inferior purpoſes; and of thoſe who ſupply themſelves from the country. Many of theſe laſt attend the repoſitories, where they frequently find much more advantageous bargains than can be met with in the country; and ſome have farms, whither their London purchaſes are ſent, in order to be converted in due time into "Horſes freſh from "the breeder's hands."

It may be neceſſary to mention a ſubdiviſion of dealers, for the information of thoſe it may concern. There are always ſome few who are connoiſſeurs, and make it their buſineſs to ſearch out horſes of high qualification; theſe men will always be found out by enquiry. As to the bulk of dealers, all they know, or care about the matter is, whether a horſe ſet two good ends, look big enough, and be in a ſelling condition.

The REPOSITORIES in London have generally of late years been three; all attempts to ſupport a fourth having hitherto failed; Mr. Taplin

Taplin however is at this inſtant repeating the experiment, and time muſt determine his ſucceſs. His ſale is weekly, on Tueſday, in Edgeware Road.

The eſtabliſhed Repoſitories are TATTERSAL'S, near Hyde Park Corner; Horſes, carriages, and harneſs of all kinds, are ſold by auction twice a week, Monday and Thurſday, at twelve o'clock; ALDRICH'S in ST. MARTIN'S LANE, on Wedneſday; and LANGHORNE'S, or the CITY REPOSITORY, in BARBICAN, on Friday. Smithfield market, or fair, for horſes, is held every Friday afternoon.

Tatterſal's is the chief repoſitory for race-horſes, ſtallions, brood-mares, hunters, and bred hacknies; although horſes of all kinds are to be found there. Other cattle of valuable breed, and high price, are ſometimes ſent thither for ſale; alſo dogs, or any animals which have relation to field ſports. There is a ſubſcription-room always open on ſale-days, where ſporting people meet for the purpoſe of betting, and the general buſineſs of the turf. The ſubſcription one guinea annually, and open to the public.

Aldrich's, the oldeſt repoſitory, being the original one opened may years ago by Beaver, is for horſes of all deſcriptions, but chiefly for hacknies, and horſes for quick draught.

At

At Langhorne's the bulk of the ſales conſiſts of hacks, journey-horſes, machiners, ſtage-waggon and cart-horſes.

Smithfield Market is for the refuſe of all kinds, including ſuch as are intended for ſlaughter, which too often exhibit a pitiable ſight. Some few freſh horſes are there expoſed to ſale, particularly of the cart-kind, and it may be noted, that the principal dealers in cart-horſes reſide in that neighbourhood, and are to be met with at market.

The CHARGES at repoſitories are as follow: Keep, half-a-crown *per* night; duty, on ſale by auction, ten-pence in the pound; commiſſion, one ſhilling *per* pound. If the horſe be put up, and not ſold, the expence is half-a-crown; if ſold by private contract, no duty attaches. A particular day of payment for horſes ſold, is fixed at each Repoſitory; a neceſſary meaſure with regard to warranted horſes, as they are liable to be returned, if not anſwerable, within the three days. I have been told, that at Repoſitories, particularly Tatterſal's, open accounts are kept with conſtant purchaſers, and conſiderable credit given; but I ſpeak barely from report.

Horſes intended for ſale at auction, ſhould be ſent, at lateſt, on the morning preceding the ſale-day, that they may go out in good place; and if they have been accuſtomed to ſtand

clothed at home, they ought to be ſent with their clothes, leſt the accidental roughneſs of their coats ſhould hurt their market. The price may be limited, or a perſon may attend to bid. Thoſe ſent from the country, ſhould arrive ſome days before the ſale; and if horſes of high price, it is common for them to continue ſome time at the Repoſitory, their own grooms attending them.

There are frequently printed catalogues, and the expence of inſerting a horſe is one ſhilling; horſes are alſo particularly advertiſed at the option and expence of the proprietor.

Repoſitories, I think, are the beſt places for the diſpoſal of horſes of high qualification and great value, either by auction or private contract; but the worſt poſſible, for low priced ones, ſince the duty and charges muſt eat deep into their ſmall value; ſuch are beſt got rid of at Smithfield, where the ſeller incurs no charge but the price of a halter; and buyers of ordinary horſes are commonly either to be found, or heard of, at Smithfield. The market prices of horſes, although ſupported by the military demand, have been extremely low during the preſent year, with the exception of thoſe of great intrinſic value, from uncommon powers. Such have been ſold at high rates. Mr. Tatterſal refuſed two-hundred guineas for his Norfolk cheſnut Gelding, got by Foy; but a few weeks afterwards

wards ſold him at the hammer, without warrant, for one-hundred and forty guineas. This nag, I underſtand, was tried to trot thirty miles on the Newmarket road, carrying his owner, upwards of ſeventeen ſtone, which he performed in two or three minutes over two hours.

The moſt formidable part of the preſent Chapter is now at hand, for who ſhall preſume to counſel a man in the choice of a wife or a horſe? I have only to point out where, and how, the latter may beſt be had. All who know horſes, live in the conſtant conviction how irkſome a buſineſs it is to recommend one to the unſkilful, who are ever attached to dazzling ſhew, in preference to juſt proportion and intrinſic worth. But what a fortunate coincidence, that good judges are to the full as ſcarce as good horſes. To the true adept I ſay, *ſois ſage pour toi meme*, and ſuffer every gentleman to pleaſe himſelf.

It is my advice to all perſons unſkilled in horſes, but no concern of mine whether or not they follow it, by no means to purchaſe one upon their own judgment ſolely, ſuch ſtep being too often followed by repentance, and a degree of vexation and diſappointment, even to a rich man. To thoſe who deſire to be out of leading-ſtrings, I recommend ſound theory, and much practice. But upon whom are the uninformed to rely? Upon their own ſervants? It is my

duty to ſtate, that I have heard of treachery and diſhoneſty in ſome of that claſs, by whom the intereſt of a maſter has been ſacrificed to the dealer for a bribe. Inferior horſes have been in that way puſhed off, at high prices, and valuable ones ſold for no juſt cauſe, and very little money. Perhaps it is as ſafe a method as any, for a gentleman firſt of all to make enquiry into the prices current, and to truſt the remainder of the buſineſs to a dealer of repute, allowing him ſufficient time, and giving a very minute deſcription of the kind of horſe wanted. Under ſuch circumſtances, it would be the intereſt of a dealer to act honourably, and I ſhould ſuppoſe the purſuit of that kind of buſineſs would turn to much better account in the end, than the ſilly practice of many dealers, who warrant all the horſes they ſell to be good ones.

The convenience of repoſitories in town, as a point of meeting between buyers and ſellers, is indubitable. The conſtant and material queſtion, with thoſe who want a ſerviceable horſe, is —how far a repoſitory may be depended upon in that reſpect? That will beſt appear from a ſketch of what is generally to be found there: to wit, ſecond-hand horſes, and occaſionally a few freſh country horſes, which the neceſſities of ſome of the dealers, or other accidental circumſtances, may have brought thither. Second-hand horſes, or ſuch as have already paſſed the

ordeal

ordeal of town ſervice, are to be divided into ſeveral claſſes; for example, into thoſe which have done their work; thoſe miſerable devils which were never calculated to do any, but are deſtined to beat the rounds of London until they are ſwallowed up in the vortex and diſappear; thoſe which are in various degrees injured by labour, or ill-uſage, but which are recoverable by care; and thoſe which have been chopped and changed, and diſcarded, to be replaced perhaps for infinitely worſe, by ignorant and capricious owners. Behold an ample field for the exerciſe of judgment in horſes; and ſhould a man venture there, even without poſſeſſing that judgment, it is a lottery where he may perhaps gain a prize, and where, at the worſt, his blank will be worth ſomething. It is apparent then, that good nags may be found at a repoſitory, by thoſe who have wit enough to pick them out; and equally apparent, that there is a chance to meet with ſecond-hand ones at the private ſtable of a dealer, who ſells none but ſuch as are "freſh from the breeders in the "country."

There may be perhaps, upon the average, from five to fifteen guineas ſaved in the price of a nag by purchaſing at a repoſitory; it is for the adventurer to conſider, whether that premium be adequate to the riſk. Many of the beſt cattle in the country have been ſold at

auction for very ſmall ſums. Biſhop's famous brown mare, was at ſix years old ſent to Aldrich's for ſale, and was at laſt purchaſed by himſelf at a very inconſiderable price. The caprice of a certain deſcription of people towards horſes is almoſt miraculous; they ſeem to entertain a natural antipathy to good ones, which they are ſure to reject, but more certainly ſtill if offered at a moderate price; whilſt they will lug out their gold moſt liberally, for the purchaſe of ſome ill-ſhaped, cock-tailed garroon, intrinſically not worth nine-pence. I could illuſtrate this by a cloud of examples, of which take the following as a ſpecimen. A gentleman purchaſed of a dealer a well-bred black gelding, five years old, fifteen hands high, and maſter of from twelve to fourteen ſtone, road or field; the price was thirty-eight guineas, a conſiderable one at that time. The gentleman kept him about a twelvemonth, hunting him occaſionally, but never experienced any ſatisfaction with him, his groom liking the horſe ſtill worſe. He was to be got rid of at any rate, and whether at the repoſitory or not, I have now forgotten, but he was purchaſed for a trifle by a butcher, who was a ſuppoſed judge of horſes. The butcher became weary of him, and ſold him to a friend of mine, for about fifteen pounds. My friend, chiefly on the repreſentation of another ſuppoſed judge, and who after riding the horſe frequently, pronounced

pronounced him good for nothing, thought himſelf well rid of him at eleven pounds. In the hands of this laſt proprietor I tried him. He was one of the ſafeſt and pleaſanteſt horſes, and the ſpeedieſt walker, I ever rode—he trotted near or altogether fourteen miles within the hour, and was a perfect canterer—I ſaw him many times leap the bar, higher than a five-barred gate, both ſtanding and flying, in a ſtyle of the higheſt excellence; and I have reaſon to believe, that he had more ſpeed for a burſt, than many winners of plates: add to all this, he was an elegant figure.

At a repoſitory, the choice of horſes is great, and the opportunity of examination and trial as fair as can be reaſonably deſired, ſince the proprietor is the middle man between buyer and ſeller. Previous to the ſale, a perſon may ride the horſe which he has ſelected, or ſee him ridden. One great reaſon of the ill ſucceſs of private purchaſers at a repoſitory, is, that they ſeldom think to attend until the time of ſale, when their ſpirits being exalted, and their eagerneſs whetted by the eloquence of the orator, the flouriſh of the hammer, and the crack of the whip, they daſh at an extempore bargain, to be repented of afterwards, when the falſe fire ſhall have become extinct both in themſelves and the horſe. On the contrary, a man who expects ſucceſs here, muſt attend at leaſt ſome hours

before the ſale, where he may probably make good advantage of his own, or the experience of an attendant. He will find, as well here as elſewhere, that the ſilver key will unlock the ſecrets of the interior cabinet. The loweſt price that a horſe will be ſold at, is frequently fixed; in which caſe, if he be judged worth the money, it is obviouſly the intereſt of a buyer to prevent his going to the hammer. Theſe ſales furniſh the occaſion of a conſiderable ſpeculative trade in horſes, which are there purchaſed and ſent into the country, to be made freſh, and in condition to be re-ſold. Great ſkill is requiſite to determine whether a worked horſe be in a recoverable ſtate, becauſe if too much injured in his joints, or too old, he will frequently come up from graſs more crippled than when firſt ſent thither; a thing which I have often witneſſed, but could never account for to my own ſatisfaction. When the paſtern joints, from conſtant ſevere labour over the road, have become callous and ſtoney, and the ſinews contracted, the caſe is infinitely worſe than when they are in a lax ſtate; the former ſituation is hopeleſs. The middle priced horſes, and ſuch as are warranted ſound, are the beſt objects of ſpeculation.

The London repoſitories are the beſt markets in the world for brood mares, of all deſcriptions, except firſt-rate cart-mares, and I have often wondered that recourſe is ſo ſeldom had thither by

by the country breeders. But there would be a little trouble in the buſineſs, and what is of ſtill greater conſequence, it would be a breach of ſacred cuſtom. Many a mare have I ſeen, actually worth fifty pounds for the ſtud, and if compared with ſuch as are commonly uſed for that purpoſe, perhaps ſeveral fifties, knocked down at five guineas to run in a fiſh cart. There is a notion current amongſt ſome perſons in the country, that ſuch worked mares will not breed, or that they are, in ſome reſpects, improper for that purpoſe. It is futile. Thoſe mares purchaſed at Michaelmas, and wintered in a good warm ſtraw-yard, with the allowance of a few carrots, will take the horſe, in due ſeaſon, with as promiſing hopes as any whatever; and after breeding a foal, may be probably recovered in the uſe of their limbs, to the degree of being able to do great ſervice. An excellent author remarks, that the greateſt profit is to be obtained from the mare, by alternation of labour and breeding. Good ſerviceable plough-horſes are often to be purchaſed at theſe places, much cheaper than in the country.

The Spring is neceſſarily the deareſt time for horſes, from the cuſtom ſo generally prevalent of riding in the ſummer ſeaſon only; the ſame cauſe operates, on the other hand, in the reduction of their price on the approach of winter. Towards Gunpowder Treaſon, the town repoſi-

tories

tories are always full; between that period and Chriſtmas the ſurplus is taken off, and prices advance gradually until the ſeaſon for the company to leave town, when it is not uncommon, from various cauſes, for them to ſuffer a ſudden declenſion; and in ſome years, a horſe has been purchaſed at Midſummer five guineas cheaper than he could have been obtained at Lady-day. Theſe obſervations, ſo trite and generally known, I offer merely in the ſtyle of memoranda. In the ſame way I muſt remark, that it is by no means either prudent or advantageous to part with a good horſe, merely becauſe he will not be wanted in the winter, ſince that breed is ſo very ſcarce, and ſince the defalcation in price is almoſt always larger than the amount of winter keep in the country, and concomitant charges. On the ſame ſide of the queſtion may be added, that by allowing a valuable horſe ſo fair a chance as an annual winter's run, to cool his limbs, and recruit his ſtrength, he might be enabled to go through his buſineſs in the moſt perfect ſtyle, even to his twentieth year, or upwards; and at that late period, be freſher upon his legs, and more ſafe to ride, than moſt of the victims of our uſual and improvident methods at ſeven or eight. As an inſtance, among many, of the longevity and laſting nature of horſes, there was living in the ſervice of a farmer, near Mancheſter, in the year 1787, an old

old grey horſe, which had been left there by the Rebels in 1745, and which had laboured hard during that long period of forty-two years. As ſo much money is frequently loſt in chopping and changing of horſes, this plan muſt ſurely be preferable in point of pecuniary calculation; in the regards of comfort and convenience, of the certainty of poſſeſſing a truſty and faithful ſlave, whenever our occaſions call, the preference is great indeed. It is natural to entertain ſome degrees of attachment to theſe creatures which are domeſticated with us, and which render us ſuch eſſential ſervices, and wherever practicable, it muſt be delightful to a good man, to render even a brute animal happy in its condition and feelings. Compaſſion to old age, to long and faithful ſervices, ought to form a part of this plan. It is mean and indefenſible in perſons of property, to deſire to make ſo contemptible an addition to their ſtore, as the price of a poor old horſe, already worn out in their ſervice; ſuch, if neceſſary to be put away, ſhould be ſhot at once, or given to thoſe who would engage to work them lightly, and uſe them well. Theſe reflections have ſerved to recall to my mind a worthy old farmer, in truth, one of the juſteſt and moſt humane of men, whoſe memory is very dear to me. His frequent ſaying was, "that when he held up his hand at the Old Bailey "in the other world, he was ſure he ſhould have "no four-legged witneſſes againſt him."

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

ON RUNNING HORSES AND THE TURF.

THE morality of the turf, or of horſe-racing, has been adverted to in the preceding Chapter, and its public or national uſe defined to conſiſt in the improvement of the breed of horſes; it is ſo generally well known that we owe our preſent ſuperiority to the introduction of the ſouthern horſe, that arguments might rather ſerve to obſcure, than elucidate the truth.

There are however, who aſſent to this poſition, and yet contend that there no longer exiſts any neceſſity for the encouragement of horſe-courſing, which, in their opinion, from certain alledged abuſes, ought rather to be reſtrained by law. They aſſert that our breed of horſes has already received all the advantages which can poſſibly be derived from racing blood, and that any farther attention to pedigree, or the maintenance of a diſtinct ſpecies, is become totally unneceſſary. Mr. Marſhall, whoſe writings I highly reſpect, and with whom it is not poſſible I can differ in many caſes, ſeems to favour theſe opinions.

I nevertheleſs contend for the neceſſity, at leaſt the utility, of a reſerve of thorough-bred horſes

horſes in this country, on the ground, that were the ſpecies neglected, and ſuffered to be indiſcriminately blended amongſt the whole genus, the Engliſh ſaddle-horſe would, in all probability, become retrogade in quality, and in the courſe of time would degenerate into the round buttock, gummy carcaſe, and coarſe head of former days. In fact, examples enough of this degeneracy are always to be ſeen in the ſtuds of the different breeders, which Mr. Marſhall himſelf allows; and the neceſſity of an occaſional recourſe to thorough blood is fully apparent. Nor is the number of well-ſhaped half-bred ſtallions ever very conſiderable, or ſufficient for the demand of the country.

The idea with which ſome people amuſe themſelves, of putting an end to horſe-racing by law, I think ſilly enough. I ſhould be ſorry to ſee the day, when the nobility and gentry of England, attached to that ſport, could be ſufficiently depreſſed in ſpirit to aſſent to ſuch a law, or rather treſpaſs upon their free agency. On the courſe only, can the worth of this peculiar ſpecies be eſſayed, and independent of that object, it is ſcarce probable that the breed would be kept diſtinct, or that any very minute attention would be beſtowed upon pedigree. It is well known, that not only have varieties of a genus of animals been often blended and loſt by neglect, but even arts and different branches

branches of knowledge have periſhed in the ſame way. From the diſcontinuance of horſe-racing, the Engliſh thorough-bred horſe, the ſource of almoſt all that is excellent in the ſpecies, might become extinct. Thus the turf is a grand national object, and its votaries are adminiſtering, through the medium of their pleaſures, to the intereſt and proſperity of their country.

The ſage lucubrations of our cloſet-jockeys, which occaſionally make their appearance in the daily prints, for the edification of the public, are in the following ſtrain, "When the turf has "ſunk into that contempt it merits, we ſhall "again have that race of ſtrong boney horſes "to which our forefathers were accuſtomed; "the old Engliſh hunter will again rear his "creſt." Preciſely ſo, in part, it would be no doubt; and we ſhould again jog on after the ſober rate of half-a-dozen miles *per* hour, upon that marble-breaſted ſort, which old Bracken dignified with the name of "pioneer horſes," and again might we make a long day of travelling fifty miles in a ſtage coach. So much for the ſtrong boney horſes of our grandſires. Reſpecting the old Engliſh hunter, ſo highly in favour with theſe reforming jockeys, he was always a half-bred horſe, and how would they contrive to make ſuch an one without the help of racing blood?—With paragraphs of the above

above tendency, may be claſſed thoſe congenial ones, which, at leaſt during every unfortunate period of war and diſtreſs, announce the decline of the turf, and forebode, with exultation, its approaching ruin. It was nothing uncommon, even in regular and authentic propheſying times, for two prophets, equally well-bred, to predict clean contrary things; and I will be bold to foretell the INCREASE, inſtead of the decline of horſe-racing. Never were ſo many bred ſtallions kept in England as at preſent, never was Newmarket better attended than in the firſt meeting, 1797.

Horſe-racing is of conſiderable antiquity in this iſland, and may be traced as far back as the eleventh century, but did not begin to put on any regulated form until the acceſſion of the Houſe of Stuart, moſt of the princes of which entertained great partiality for the ſport, as has been already remarked. Newmarket began to be frequented previous to the Civil War; but in the reign of Charles II. encouraged by the preſence of the monarch and his favourites, it ſhone forth in full glory: every body knows it now, by common fame, as the head-quarters of the turf. Frequent meetings, at ſtated periods, are there held, and the ſport generally continues throughout the week; there are about fourſcore places beſides, in England, where races are annually held; in ſome twice in the year.

At

At Newmarket, nearly all races are determined at one heat, as a meaſure of neceſſity, from their uſual number and variety.

The ſpeed and continuance of the race-horſes muſt neceſſarily be affected and governed, in certain degrees, by the weight which they have to carry; and reaſoning upon that poſition, it will be eaſily conceived, that if two horſes be equally matched in point of ſpeed and ſtrength, and put to their utmoſt exertion for a conſiderable diſtance, the horſe which carries the leaſt weight, by even only a ſingle pound, muſt infallibly have the advantage to a certain degree (however ſmall) in the ability of going more ſwift and laſting longer, than his antagoniſt. The ſwifter the pace, and the longer it is continued, the more in proportion will the horſe be affected by the weight he carries. It is ſaid, that in running four miles, ſeven pounds make the difference of a diſtance, or two hundred and forty yards, between horſes of equal goodneſs. This affair of weight is regulated with ſcientific preciſion upon the turf, and forms a prime conſideration in all ſporting tranſactions. The weights carried by race-horſes vary from the maximum twelve ſtone, fourteen pounds to the ſtone, to a feather, which means a boy of the lighteſt weight to be found.

The thorough-bred courſer, is, in a general point of view, the moſt uſeful ſpecies of the horſe,

horſe, as being applicable to every purpoſe, from innate qualities, which can be predicated of no other ſpecies of the animal. Sampſon, Babram, and Eclipſe, from ſelected large and ſhort-legged bred mares, would have produced very uſeful ſtock for the ſhafts of a dray; but I do not warrant that ſuch would be ſuperior to our real cart-ſtock. Two deſcriptions of perſons appear to me to judge erroneouſly, thoſe who ſuppoſe all racers to be a ſpider-legged and uſeleſs breed, and thoſe who contend, that our whole attention ought to be directed to breeding them of a large ſize. The chief object in breeding a race-horſe ought to be truth and ſymmetry in the cardinal points; it is always eaſy enough to produce bulk, particularly in the croſs, for other purpoſes.

I have in the Firſt Volume, defined a thorough-bred horſe or racer, to be originally the produce of certain parts of Aſia or Africa, or of the South of Europe. In the infancy of racing in this country, any ſouthern horſe, or the get of ſuch from Engliſh mares, if tolerably ſhaped, was trained for the courſe. Shape and activity were the chief points attended to, and pedigree was not required with that punctilious degree of exactneſs which has of late years obtained. At what period pedigree became ſo much an object of conſequence, I have been unable to diſcover, and I believe there

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horſe, as being applicable to every purpoſe, from innate qualities, which can be predicated of no other ſpecies of the animal. Sampſon, Babram, and Eclipſe, from ſelected large and ſhort-legged bred mares, would have produced very uſeful ſtock for the ſhafts of a dray; but I do not warrant that ſuch would be ſuperior to our real cart-ſtock. Two deſcriptions of perſons appear to me to judge erroneouſly, thoſe who ſuppoſe all racers to be a ſpider-legged and uſeleſs breed, and thoſe who contend, that our whole attention ought to be directed to breeding them of a large ſize. The chief object in breeding a race-horſe ought to be truth and ſymmetry in the cardinal points; it is always eaſy enough to produce bulk, particularly in the croſs, for other purpoſes.

I have in the Firſt Volume, defined a thorough-bred horſe or racer, to be originally the produce of certain parts of Aſia or Africa, or of the South of Europe. In the infancy of racing in this country, any ſouthern horſe, or the get of ſuch from Engliſh mares, if tolerably ſhaped, was trained for the courſe. Shape and activity were the chief points attended to, and pedigree was not required with that punctilious degree of exactneſs which has of late years obtained. At what period pedigree became ſo much an object of conſequence, I have been unable to diſcover, and I believe there

exiſt no documents on that head earlier than the reign of Anne, when ſportſmen were by no means ſo particular in the relation as in the preſent day. Although flying Childers was doubtleſs a high-bred horſe, and the integrity of his blood the more to be depended upon, from the circumſtance of his having been bred in and in, we may eaſily detect the baſtard blood, in the irregular ſhapes exhibited in portraits of the running-horſes of thoſe days; and your Bay Boltons, Lampreys, and Bonny Blacks, would make but a poor figure over the courſe, againſt the "terrible, terrible, high-"bred cattle" of the preſent time.

A true racing pedigree, according to the rule of the preſent time, ought to prove under the hand of the breeder, that the horſe has deſcended from anceſtors of genuine racing blood, without the intervention of a ſingle baſtard croſs. If the pedigree be long, it is common to take it for granted that there is blood ſufficient, although there be no mare mentioned in it, which has proved her blood by her having actually raced; but uſually all the horſes are reputed runners or brothers of ſuch. The greater number of mares which have raced, contained in a pedigree, the ſurer and more valuable, no doubt, it muſt be, particularly if the laſt-mentioned be ſpecified as a reputed racer, or a natural Arabian or Barb. A pedigree of one ſingle deſcent is held ſufficient, when the ſire and

and dam are named as reputed and tried runners; otherwiſe a ſhort pedigree of three or four deſcents, would not conſtitute a horſe thorough-bred; it might ſerve for a hunter.

It is yet eaſy to conceive how liable the pedigree of a horſe muſt be both to error and impoſition, and that the beſt proof of true blood muſt ever conſiſt in performance. Various accidental baſtard croſſes have occurred in our racing breed, at different periods, chiefly diſtant ones; and they are frequently eaſy enough diſtinguiſhable in the figure of the ſtock, by a critical eye. The two moſt remarkable inſtances within my recollection, are thoſe of Bay Bolton and Sampſon. The former, foaled in Queen Anne's reign, was got by a large horſe without pedigree, called Hautboy, bred by a farmer; the latter by Blaze, out of a hunting mare. It has been pretended that Sampſon was out of a thorough-bred daughter of Hartley's Hip; but I well knew the man, who more than half a century ago led Sampſon's dam to Blaze, and who afterwards bitted and broke the colt; he has repeatedly aſſured me, that the pedigree of the mare was unknown, and that ſhe appeared about three parts bred. There is another ſpeculation of ſome conſequence in this buſineſs, which is, if we concede that the Mountain Arab is the only true racer, and reflect upon the numerous

certain and probable baſtard croſſes here, we can have no ſuch thing, ſtrictly ſpeaking, as a thorough-bred runner in this country. It is highly probable, that we have had few real Mountain Arabians in England, excepting the Darley and Godolphin Arabians, which have been generally ſuppoſed ſuch. The ſuperior excellence of their ſtock ſeemed to countenance, or rather confirm, the opinion of the primary and unmixed breed of thoſe ſtallions, and in my judgment nothing can come nearer to the idea of a wild mountain horſe, than the portrait of the Godolphin Arabian.

The far greater part of thoſe horſes brought over to this country, under the general appellation of Arabians, have, I believe, never ſeen Arabia, or have been of its inferior breed. They are uſually purchaſed in the Levant, Barbary, or the Eaſt Indies, by perſons totally unacquainted with horſes, or at any rate with the peculiar purpoſe for which ſuch horſes are deſigned; hence a number of inferior and half-bred Arabians have been brought over at a uſeleſs expence, to deteriorate inſtead of amending our racing breed, and to bring Arabian blood into diſrepute. I may have ſeen about a ſcore ſouthern horſes, called Arabians, at different times, not one among which appeared to me to be a true mountain horſe. Thoſe which were lately at the Veterinary College,

lege, and which I believe were imported from India, were evidently of a mixed breed; and the Arabian at Hampſtead, appears upon the ſlighteſt ſurvey, to be no more than a three-part bred horſe, well adapted to get ſaddle and coach-horſes. Theſe remarks may ſerve to account for the defects of the new blood, as it has been ſtyled upon the turf; and as ſufficient reaſons why the produce of Arabians ſo ſeldom run their courſe through. We are chiefly indebted to the two famous Arabians above-named, for our moſt valuable racing ſtock, and to thoſe of the latter deſcription, for our numerous diſappointments.

The horſe next in quality to the Arab, is the Mountain Barb; this approximation ariſes from ſimilarity of climate probably, and from an attention to pedigree paid by the great men, and other inhabitants of Barbary. The Barb is leſs than the Arabian, very deep breaſted, but rather of an aſinine or muliſh appearance; if genuine, he gets true and ſtout runners.

A material queſtion ariſes here, have we any farther occaſion for Arabian blood, and will not our Engliſh courſer degenerate, in proceſs of time, without an occaſional recurrence to the parent ſtock? I will take upon me to anſwer this queſtion in part, or rather I have already done it; we can have no ſort of need of ſuch foreign horſes as are uſually imported, for the plaineſt

reaſon in the world, we poſſeſs much better of our own native ſtock. But this makes nothing againſt the propriety of endeavouring to obtain genuine Arabian courſers. We ought never to remain ſtationary and ſatisfied while there exiſts a poſſibility of improvement; the vaſt advantages reſulting from the accidental importation of a very few real good horſes has been amply proved, and in my opinion, the proſecution of a concerted plan for obtaining a farther ſupply, would be an object not unworthy the attention of a gentleman of the turf, either in the view of curioſity or profit: the plan beſt adapted to that end is matter of enquiry.

I have never heard, that any properly qualified perſon has been ſent to Arabia for the purpoſe of purchaſing horſes, nevertheleſs I believe ſuch to be the only probable method of obtaining the genuine ſtock in requeſt. The tenaciouſneſs of the Arabians of their higheſt bred horſes, has been long known, and very few, or none of ſuch, ever find their way to the great fairs in the Eaſtern countries, where the common Arabian, and other Eaſtern horſes, are uſually purchaſed.

The following is the beſt account of the Arabian horſes which I have been able to obtain, either from reading or enquiry. They have in that country, three diſtinct breeds, or rather two varieties from the original genus; from

from analogy of qualification the three claſſes may be properly enough compared with our racers, hunters, and common bred horſes. The diſtinctive appellations of the Arab horſes are, Kehilani or Cocklani, Kehidiſchi or Guideſki, and Atticki. The firſt, or Cocklani, are the original genus, bred in the middle or mountainous country, where it is ſaid a few are yet to be found in the wild, or natural ſtate. The Arabs pretend to have pedigrees of this illuſtrious race, upwards of two thouſand years old; but whether their private records accord with truth exactly or not, is of little moment, ſince the antiquity and character of the Mountain Arabian horſe has the fulleſt ſanction of both ancient hiſtory and modern experience. The Atticki, or inferior breed, may probably have been the original produce of the low country, and the middle variety may have reſulted from a mixture of mountain and low-country ſtock. The Arabians are ſeldom willing to part with their beſt mares, at any price; and the value of a true bred one, whether horſe or mare, is ſaid to amount to ſeveral hundred pounds in the country.

The Arabian horſes are fed with dates, milk, and corn; it is not to be ſuppoſed, that in ſuch a country, they have the ample allowance of corn, uſual in this; nevertheleſs it is confidently aſſerted, that the ſuperior breed of them will

travel eighty or a hundred miles in a day, for ſeveral ſucceſſive days, over the ſand and ſtones of that ſultry climate. Sir John Chardin ſays, that the Arabian method of trying a maiden horſe, is to ride him ninety miles without ſtopping, and at the end of that moderate ſtage, to plunge him up to the cheſt in water; if he would immediately eat his corn, that proof of the vigour of his appetite alſo proved the genuineneſs of his blood. But Sir John underſtood precious ſtones better than horſes, and might, like other travellers, eaſily liſten to any wonderful ſtory concerning them. Dr. Blumenbach, who has within theſe few years written a celebrated treatiſe on the native varieties of the human ſpecies, ſays, "that all animals "deſtitute of the dark pigment of the eye are "a mere altered breed." How far that obſervation is entitled to dependance, I have never had the opportunity to conſider or examine, but the purchaſe of a particular breed of animals would ſurely be leaſt liable to deception in the original country where they were bred. The external characteriſtic of original genus, is uniformity, or univerſal ſymmetry; and the true-bred Arab is diſtinguiſhed by his ſilken hair, and ſoft flexible ſkin, deer-like hoofs and paſterns, ſmall muzzle, full eye, ſmall well-turned head, joined to the neck with a curve, capacious ſhoulders, extenſive angle of the hock, length and extent

of

of thigh, large ſinews, and flat bones. I have often obſerved that convulſive ſnatching up, and turning out the feet, in the gait of horſes ſaid to be Arabians, and have ever looked upon it as the indication of a ſpurious breed; the beſt Arabs, which I have ſeen, having been good goers, many of them true daiſey cutters. The pawing method of going, cannot always be the conſequence of menage, ſince I have remarked it to deſcend from a reputed Arabian, through ſeveral generations.

To aſſiſt the reader in forming adequate ideas of the phenomenon of blood in horſes, I will arrange before him certain data, which reſt upon the ground of conſtant and invariable experience, namely—Fine and delicate horſes, the natives of warm climes, excel in ſwiftneſs; the moſt perfect of theſe were originally found in Arabia, but they are improvable in their deſcendants by a more fruitful country; the Arabians tried in England, have never proved themſelves, in any reſpect, equal upon the courſe to the Engliſh racers, the deſcendants of their blood. Although the general characteriſtic of thorough-blood is ſpeed, yet the true teſt is not ſpeed, but continuance, ſince many common or half-bred horſes have been known to poſſeſs racing ſpeed, but no inſtance has ever occurred of its continuance in thoſe beyond perhaps half a mile; the powers of continuance increaſe in proportion

proportion to the quantity of blood; thus, three-part bred horſes will perſevere longer than half-bred, and thoſe got by bred horſes out of three-part bred mares, will ſometimes equal the real racers. Although amongſt horſes equally well bred, ſuperior external conformation will generally prevail in the race, yet racing can in no ſort be ſaid abſolutely to depend on good ſhape; it depends entirely on blood; for example, take the worſt ſhaped true-bred horſe you can find, and the beſt ſhaped common horſe; let the latter have a fine coat, looſe thrapple, high and declined ſhoulder, length, ſpeed, in fine, all the admired points of the racer; (and ſuch common horſes are occaſionally to be found) let them run four miles, and the bred horſe, although out-footed at firſt, ſhall always win the race. This principle is ſo univerſal, that perhaps it would be altogether impracticable to find a thorough-bred horſe in England, ſufficiently bad, to be beat four miles by the ſpeedieſt and beſt common bred hack. All bred horſes cannot race, many of the higheſt blood having neither the gift of ſpeed nor continuance; many are defective in the material points of conformation, as it happens in common horſes.

The uſual trial of ſpeed in Engliſh racing, is the diſtance of a ſingle mile; of continuance, ſtoutneſs, or bottom, four miles. It has been aſſerted with confidence, but not proved, that

Flying

Flying Childers ran a mile over Newmarket in the ſpace of a minute; a velocity ſo immenſe, that it turns ones ideas to ſpeed in the abſtract or ubiquity. It has however been really performed, in a few ſeconds over a minute, an inſtance of which, within my preſent recollection, is that of Firetail and Pumpkin.

The diſtance of four miles was ran by Childers, in 1721, carrying nine ſtone two pounds, in the ſpace of ſix minutes forty-eight ſeconds. This wonderful animal leaped ten yards with his rider, upon level ground; and is ſuppoſed to have covered, at every ſtride, a ſpace of twenty-five feet, which is more than forty-nine feet in a ſecond. Bay Malton ran four miles over York, in 1763, in ſeven minutes forty-three ſeconds and a half. Eclipſe ran the ſame diſtance over York, in eight minutes, with twelve ſtone. In general, a horſe which will run four miles in eight minutes, with eight ſtone ſeven pounds, will win plates. Reſpecting the number of miles which an Engliſh racer would run in an hour, I have often been ſurprized, upon enquiry, to find there is abſolutely no opinion; and that no ſportſman hitherto has had the curioſity to make the eſſay. I remember indeed, that Hull's Quibbler ran twenty-two or twenty-three miles in one hour; but little is to be inferred from thence, ſince the performance has been equalled upon the hard road, by a three

a three-part bred hack, and ſince Quibbler was but a middling racer. If I may be allowed to judge, *a priori*, I ſhould ſuppoſe a good racer would carry eight ſtone more than twenty-ſix miles in one hour.

I have heard many people pretend they were unable to comprehend the uſual diſcrimination between ſpeed and ſtoutneſs in horſes; aſſerting, that as every race muſt finally be won by ſpeed, the winner muſt needs be the ſpeedieſt horſe. But I can ſee no difficulty in conceiving, that from the peculiar ſtructure and form of the parts, or quality of the fibres, the ſpeed of one horſe may be momentary and uncertain, but ready; that of another, durable, but gradual. What more can be deſired in the caſe than poſitive proof, that the beaten horſe could run a certain ſhort diſtance, in leſs time, than the winner could perform the ſame, at any early period of the race. It is thus impartial nature acts in the diſtribution of her gifts and qualifications amongſt her children. The horſe, to which has been imparted extraordinary promptneſs and facility of exertion, is ſeldom endowed with proportional powers of continuance; and to borrow an analogy from human nature, where we find rapid conception, a profuſion of images, and a dazzling eloquence, we are ſeldom to expect a profound and ſolid judgment; ſuch men are deſtined rather to delight than inſtruct.

When

When there exiſts an union of very high degrees of theſe ſeemingly oppoſite qualities, the poſſeſſor, whether horſe or man, is truly a phenomenon. Thus it appears, that hot, eager, and ſpeedy horſes, are fitteſt for a ſhort race, and that ſuch are uſually beaten by horſes with leſs ſpeed, but ſtouter, at the diſtance of four miles, or, as it is called, over the courſe; unleſs the difference of ſpeed be too conſiderable, which in the language of the turf, ſpeaking of the ſtout horſes, is ſtyled, "going too faſt for them." Baret, with the aſſiſtance of Euclid, has drawn out an elaborate and curious arithmetical ſcheme, which proves, no doubt very clearly to thoſe who underſtand it, (in which number I do not profeſs to be) that the ſlow horſe, when he wins, is really the ſpeedieſt; in other words, his aggregate, or total ſum of ſpeed, is the greateſt.

After all, what is the cauſe or baſis of that ſuperior ſpeed, endurance, and ſtrength, which diſtinguiſh the ſouthern horſe? Doubtleſs a peculiar innate quality of body, which ſome attribute to the dry and elaſtic air of thoſe countries where he is bred, but which appears not to me altogether ſatisfactory. The game, or wild animals of northern climes, poſſeſs the peculiar qualities of the race-horſe, which they loſe in a few generations, on being domeſticated; their bones becoming ſoft and ſpongy,

like

like thoſe of tame animals in general. The race-horſe is much ſtronger than the cart or common horſe, weight for weight, his ſubſtance being of a much finer, cloſer, and more ſolid contexture. The bones of the two ſpecies have been very aptly compared to ſteel and iron; the ſinews of the racer are ſtronger and more capable of extenſion than thoſe of the other, in proportion as a rope of ſilk is endowed with more ſtrength and elaſticity, than a hempen one of the ſame bulk or weight. Since it hath been ſhewn that a horſe does not race from the excellence of his external form merely, the grand principle of blood may be ſaid rather to ſubſiſt in the flexibility of his ſinews, and we may compare the ſkin of the racer to ſilk, his bone to ſteel, and his fibrous ſyſtem to the ſolid but ductile gold. I have enlarged on this particular, for the uſe of thoſe gentlemen chiefly, who may be ambitious of ſtill farther improving our racing breed, by an import of real and thorough-ſhaped Arabian ſtock; and muſt farther add, that to make the experiment complete, it would be abſolutely neceſſary to provide Arabian mares, as well as ſtallions; the produce of theſe nouriſhed, enlarged, and invigorated by the fruitful ſoil of England, muſt indubitably, at one or other period, attain the higheſt degree of excellence. Curious comparative experiments might alſo be made, by croſſing the new with the Engliſh blood.

blood. The emolluments derived from the ſtock of thoſe celebrated Arabians above-mentioned, might be far exceeded in theſe times, from the poſſeſſion of horſes of equal goodneſs.

The TRAINING of race-horſes is, at preſent, a much more ſimple and rational proceſs than in former days, and is indeed making a gradual approach to perfection. It was the faſhion of old, to ſtuff horſes under preparation for the courſe, with I know not how many different kinds of baked bread, to load them with an immenſe and debilitating burden of clothes, to force them to breathe a ſuffocating and tropical heat within doors, and greatly to overdo them with ſevere and long continued exerciſe. Breads have long ſince been baniſhed the running ſtables, where the heavieſt oats, and the hardieſt and ſweeteſt hay, are found to anſwer in the fulleſt manner every purpoſe of nutrition. Race-horſes are no longer ſtifled with heat, like variolous patients under the ancient regimen; and (not having been in the running ſtables for ſome years) I was agreeably ſurprized this ſpring, at Epſom, to find the doors wide open at ſtable-time, and to obſerve that the horſes generally enjoyed a reaſonable portion of air. I ſaw none with more than the bare ſuit of cloths; and their work, I was given to underſtand, was much milder than formerly. The uſual length of the exerciſe gallop, is from a mile

mile to a mile and a quarter; of the ſweat, from four to five miles.

A conciſe account of the exerciſe and diet of ſporting horſes, has been already given in a preceding Chapter; the training of the race-horſe muſt of neceſſity be the moſt regular and efficacious, on account of the ſuperior ſudden exertions required of him; hence the cuſtom of ſweating, either once in ten days, weekly, or ſtill oftner, according to the hardneſs of carcaſe, and propenſion to obeſity in the horſe. The adipoſe or fatty ſubſtance of the body, being inert, and weight to be carried, rather than contributory to action, muſt neceſſarily, in this caſe, be diſſipated, and kept under by work. The method of SWEATING a race-horſe, is to load him with a double or triple quantity of clothes, and to run him four or five miles upon the turf, keeping him in general to a long ſteady gallop, or his rate, but making occaſional burſts of ſpeed, which have the effect of accelerating the diſcharge of perſpirable matter. After this operation, the horſe is taken within doors, and gradually uncovered, whilſt the ſweat is ſcraped from all parts of his body with an edged wooden inſtrument; when, being rubbed perfectly dry, his accuſtomed clothing is replaced. Sweating is performed in the morning, earlier or later, according to the judgment of the groom.

Now for the familiar day, or rather year, of the

the race-horſe. His winter is uſually ſpent in the paddock and looſe ſtable, enjoying himſelf at his eaſe, until the period of phyſic arrive, which muſt be ſo fixed, that there be at leaſt an interval of two months between the laſt doſe and the firſt race: this interval is of courſe ſpent in exerciſe. I aſſume here, with the intention of proving it anon, that no race-horſe can perform, to the full extent of his natural powers, without the aid of purgatives. The ſpring and ſummer are paſſed in exerciſe and racing, the horſe perhaps travelling to a number of different courſes in the country; a racer travels, I ſuppoſe, from twenty to twenty-four miles *per* day, and much travel upon the hard road, muſt in courſe abate his ſpeed, whence the advantage in the race of thoſe which have been conſtantly upon the ſpot. I have been aſſured by grooms, that a horſe in the midſt of the racing ſeaſon, when a ſufficient interval can be ſpared, is frequently much benefitted by a doſe of phyſic; which I can eaſily credit, provided the purge be mild and cooling: from the violent nature of his labour, and the exceſs of his feeding, the blood of the animal may be in too inflammatory, or too denſe and ſluggiſh a ſtate, and his general habit too much conſtringed.

It has been the advice of many theoretical writers, to keep a horſe until five years old

before he is ſuffered to race, and then, ſay theſe gentlemen, the joints are become perfectly knit, and the animal fibre has acquired its higheſt degree of elaſticity. All this reads perfectly well, and is even true in fact, but what if after keeping the nag during all that long period, at a vaſt expence, he ſhould at laſt, on trial, prove to have no running in him? Why, that you had better have known it two years ſooner. True, it has been ſaid, that Eclipſe owed great part of his ſuperlative powers to being exempt from labour in his colthood. I have my doubts on that head. I recollect an old woman's ſtory concerning the trial of that terrible racer. Certain perſons who deſired to get knowledge without coming honeſtly by it, having received a hint of the morning on which it was intended to try Eclipſe, reſolved to watch the trial. They were ſome little time too late, but had the good fortune to light on an old woman, who gave them all the information they wanted. On enquiry whether ſhe had ſeen a race, the woman ſaid, "ſhe could not tell whether it "were a race or not, but that ſhe had juſt ſeen "a horſe with white legs, running away at a "monſtrous ſize, and another horſe a great "way behind, trying to run after him; but ſhe "was ſure he would never catch the white-"legged horſe, if they run to the world's end."

Yearlings are frequently trained, and even raced

raced at that early period; but at three years old, it is full time to aſcertain the probable worth of the racer. Of courſe, phyſic and exerciſe, proportionally mild, and light weights, are indicated for this young and tender ſtock. The charge for training a race-horſe, formerly a guinea, is now, I underſtand, twenty-five ſhillings *per* week. A full account of all public races, paſt and to come, of ſtallions to cover, of horſes for ſale, and of the general concerns of the turf, it is well known, is to be found in Weatherby's Sporting Calendar. The oldeſt account of racing tranſactions, with which I am acquainted, is to be found in a collection publiſhed about the year 1758; the retroſpect extends as far as the middle of Anne's reign. There is alſo a book extant, publiſhed a few years ſince by Mr. Stubbs, ſhewing the pedigrees of all racers of note for the laſt fifty years.

It is notorious that a number of gentlemen, at different periods, have greatly injured their fortunes by their tranſactions upon the turf; and indeed the commerce of gambling hath this unfavourable difference from commerce properly ſo called, that whereas in the latter, all parties are benefitted; in the former, ſome muſt inevitably loſe, and the ſpeculators in conſequence prey one upon the other. Gambling then, of all kinds, had much better be looked

upon and practiſed, rather as mere recreation, than an object of ſerious gain; and the expence of it apportioned, as a ſunk charge, to the income of the practiſer. A ſtrict and punctual account of conſequent expence, loſs, or gain, in purſuits of this nature, or indeed any other; and a reſolute and immoveable determination not to exceed a certain annual ſum, are the only means of inſuring ſafety, or a timely retreat; and in theſe reſpects, a faithful and intelligent ſecretary or ſteward muſt be one of the moſt valuable poſſeſſions of a young man of fortune, juſt commencing his ſporting career: but one principal reaſon of the ſcarcity of ſuch, is the indifference and neglect with which they are treated, who are bold enough to adminiſter wholeſome advice, too generally a kind of nauſeous phyſic to the human mind; hence many men find the apology of diſhoneſty in ſelf-defence. *C'eſt pourquoi*, that moſt ſtewards ſeem to make a text-book of Gil Blas. There is a common obſervation of the grooms, that it is not horſe-racing of itſelf, or betting, which cripples the fortunes of their maſters, but that uſual concomitant of the turf, the hazard-table; and it ſeems to be founded: but certainly diſtinct accounts ought to be had of theſe. A very neceſſary preliminary alſo towards ſucceſs, and as I ſhould conceive any ſort of ſatisfaction in the ſtud or the turf, muſt be a proper knowledge

ledge of the nature and management of ſporting horſes, inſtead of that ſuperficial and ſecond-hand kind, which is acquired by rote from the crude opinions and mere habitual practice of unreflecting grooms; a true ſportſman ought to be able to ſee with his own eyes, and not to require the magic lantern of his ſervant's opinions, which, ten to one, but he finds at laſt to be nothing more than a Will-o'-the-Wiſp, or *ignis fatuus*. I have often made myſelf merry at the ridiculous diſtreſs of maſters, when theſe *fac totum* ſervants, well knowing their conſequence, have turned inſolent, and threatened to abandon their places.

In the choice of bred cattle, if tried ones be the object, (and that perhaps is the ſafeſt courſe, where the price is not exorbitant) the chief conſideration is, that they be not injured by labour; if young and untried, ſhape and ſize ought to be the only rule to determine a purchaſer; the ſame rule ought to be our invariable guide, in the choice of the ſtallion and mare. Nothing ſurely can be more abſurd than to chuſe a race-horſe with indifferent or improper ſhape for action, merely on the conſideration of favourite blood, ſince opinions on that head are ſo variable, and even determinable by faſhion; and ſince we have ſo many examples before our eyes, of full brothers, one of which ſhall be a capital racer, from his ſu-

perior ſhape and ſize, the other, from his inferiority in thoſe reſpects only, barely able to beat a good leather-plater. Exceptions to the general rule we know muſt occaſionally occur, in this as well as other caſes, but the average advantage will ever be found on the ſide of ſymmetry. Were ſhapes equal, or the diſproportion not over great, every ſportſman would ſurely prefer a pedigree of the old blood, and where were as few deviations as poſſible from thoſe grand and genuine fountains, the Darley and Godolphin Arabians; but for capital ſhape, I would always overlook either a Sampſon croſs, or a large ſprinkling of new or unfaſhionable blood.

There is a difficulty in the caſe of covering ſtallions, not eaſy of ſolution, or perhaps only an exception to the general rule; ſome of our thorough-ſhaped and beſt bred racers have totally failed in breeding their like. Such was the caſe with Gimcrack, and in a conſiderable degree with Shark; perhaps this latter horſe had few or no thorough-ſhaped mares, and his ſire, Marſk, afterwards ſo famous, was in no repute as a ſtallion at firſt, and there were many of his get running upon the foreſt. Shark hung in hand at Tatterſal's, and was ſold at laſt for about one hundred and twenty pounds, to go to Virginia. I liked that horſe and his pedigree, and was prevented by accident from purchaſing

chaſing him for a friend, on the ſpeculation of training him again. He was then, although fourteen years old, much freſher upon his legs than at any period, for two or three years previous to his going out of training, and allowing the ſingularity of the opinion, I cannot help thinking ſtill, that under judicious management, he would have again raced, near enough to his original form, to have beat many good plate horſes. True, this plan has been tried without ſucceſs; but Babram, the brother of an anceſtor of Shark, in 1747 and 8, won many plates, and yet covered mares in the ſame ſeaſon. I have no idea of any poſſible harm it could do a horſe in training, of four years old, to cover one mare in a week during the ſeaſon, by which meaſure his merits as a covering ſtallion, would be determinable by the uſual period of his quitting the turf; a ſpecies of information of ſome conſequence to the owner.

Such uſage might probably render a vicious horſe troubleſome, in which caſe he ought to be kept and exerciſed as much alone as poſſible. Some racers have been remarkable for their fierce and ſavage diſpoſition; one horſe has been known to fly at and ſeize another whilſt running their courſe, and if I miſremember not, O'Kelly's Venus received a bite upon the thigh in that way: but the moſt remarkable inſtance of this kind happened at Loughrea, in Ireland,

in Auguſt 1753, in a race rode by gentlemen; when at ſtarting for the ſecond heat, Mr. Quin's horſe ſeized another gentleman's mare by the leg, and both riders were obliged to diſmount, in order to force the horſe to quit his hold, whilſt their competitors were running; they with difficulty ſaved their diſtance.

Much loſs has often accrued from a groundleſs and whimſical attachment to favourite blood, and favourite ſtallions; alſo to continuing a ſlow horſe in training year after year, when every race is but a new proof, that nothing, ſave a miracle, or at leaſt an extraordinary accident, can poſſibly bring him in firſt and firſt. The old Northern grooms would inſiſt, that any produce of Blaze muſt race, although out of a cart-mare. The late Lord Marquis of Rockingham was ſaid to have been a conſiderable loſer by training ſo many of the Sampſons, although, upon a reference to the Calendar, he certainly appears to have had a conſiderable number of winners, and one or two capital horſes of that blood. Poor Mr. Jennings was ſtrangely attached to that worthleſs Barbary Crab, Chillaby; and I have often heard the grooms ridicule his anxious ſolicitude, in timing over the courſe, ſtop-watch in hand, his favourite Rabicano, which a good poſt-hack would have beat; at the ſame time he poſſeſſed a real racer, Count, by which he ſat no ſtore: but the beſt

beſt of it was, if I am truly informed, a ſtable-keeper in Moorfields, was engaged to furniſh Jennings with large half-bred mares, at a hundred a piece, in order to breed ſubſtantial and good ſized racers from Chillaby!

It is not my purpoſe to enter very diffuſely into the practical minutiæ of this ſubject, ſuch are more eaſily acquired in the ſtable, and upon the theatre of action; I wiſh rather to confine myſelf to certain topics of conſequence, which are not always attended to in practice.

The purging ſyſtem of the running ſtables is ſtill liable to ſolid objections. Grooms always fancy that the body of a horſe abounds with noxious humours, which require ſpecific purgation. In their ideas, racing and aloetic, or mercurial phyſic, are connected by an indiſſoluble chain; and theſe noſtrums are ſuppoſed to operate by a peculiar innate virtue or charm. All this is of much the ſame weight with any other nonſenſe which preſcription may have ſanctioned. The exhibition of phyſic in this caſe, bears no more relation to the expulſion of evil humours from the body of a horſe, than to the extirpation of corns in his feet: the ſole intent is the detruſion of accumulated alvine fœces, in better Engliſh, unloading the ſtuffed bowels, attenuating the blood, and refrigerating or cooling the general habit. Againſt the beſt aloes no general objection can poſſibly lie; it is a ca-

a cathartic, equally mild, ſafe, and efficacious; but I know of no poſſible buſineſs a groom can have with mercurials, in the caſe of phyſicing merely for condition. In ſome inſtances, the neutral ſalts might be ſubſtituted even for aloes, with great advantage; I mean with waſhy, hot, and irritable horſes, which ſoon part with their fleſh. A gentleman accuſtomed to the ſtable forms, would not be ſatisfied that his horſe could race, having been purged with Glauber's ſalts only; let him make the eſſay with one which he does not intend ſhould run to win.

It appears to me, that race-horſes are invariably over-purged, either by an exceſs in the number or ſtrength of the doſes, or by the uſe of Barbadoes aloes, or mercury. Such cauſe can never fail of the effect of detracting from a horſe's ſpeed, and of debilitating him, however it may poſſibly elongate his ſtride. The cords and pullies of the machine are deprived of too much of their ſpring, in which conſiſts both the edge of ſpeed and the graſp of continuance. The exerciſe alſo is, I am convinced, even yet too ſevere and indiſcriminate, and our horſes too often brought to the poſt in a condition much below their work. The external ſigns of this error are, want of cheerfulneſs, delicate feeding, refuſal of water, or greedineſs of it, looſe teſticles, and backwardneſs in recovery of fleſh after training. Many a colt, I believe,

is

is tried and rejected, at the ſame time, ſeven or ten pounds the worſe over the courſe, for his exerciſe and phyſic.

It is a common obſervation, " that a horſe " cannot run fat," and it is moſt true; but a very erroneous uſe is too generally made of the maxim. Should a horſe be very hardy, and retain his fleſh in exerciſe, meaſures of violence, both in reſpect to purgation and ſweats, are inſtantly reſorted to, which in a few words is ſimply to chuſe the greater evil, a dearly beloved error of mankind in all poſſible caſes. Nature bears the motto, *nemo me impune laceſſit*; ſhe will ſuffer no violence with impunity; in conformity to that principle, the ſuperfluous quantum of fleſh which a hardy nag may bring to the ſtarting-poſt, notwithſtanding fair and regular exerciſe, will detract leſs either from his ſpeed or bottom, than that certain portion of debility which muſt aſſuredly ſuperinduce, by the extraordinary meaſures neceſſary to counteract his conſtitutional tendency. If he has additional weight of fleſh to carry, the advantage is ſtill on the ſide of additional ſtrength, and elaſticity of fibre. The material queſtion no doubt is, what is the due proportion of phyſic and exerciſe for ſuch horſes? It muſt be left to the diſcretion of men of experience and common ſenſe.

ſenſe. It is a caſe, in which the maſter ought to poſſeſs judgment ſufficient to determine.

Should a horſe, after three doſes of phyſic, regular gallops, and a ſweat a week, ſtill carry a ſhew of ſuperfluous ſubſtance, carry it he might, for any thing I ſhould care, and I would even ſtart him fleſh and all, rather than attempt to break down the texture of it with mercurial purges, or to work the horſe off his legs, and his ſpeed, with extra ſweats and rattling gallops. We have here the reaſon why the tendons of hardy horſes are ſo often injured; in fact, four of the horſes out of ſix, which break down upon the turf, receive that injury from errors in training. How often have I heard of horſes, which were before ready to devour the manger, ſweated out of their appetite, and then, if time could poſſibly be allowed, to mend the matter, purged with ſtrong mercurial phyſic. The univerſal panacea of purgation is reſorted to on all occaſions. I remember ſome years ago, the horſe of a noble Lord being on his way ſouthward, towards Newmarket, chanced to go a little lame, from travelling probably; he ſtopped at a ſeat of his lordſhip, where the head groom ſagaciouſly aſcribing his tenderneſs to humours flying about the ſhoulders, gave the horſe (worth then at leaſt five hundred pounds) a

doſe

doſe which purged him four ſucceſſive days and nights, and reduced him to the condition of a dog-horſe. I ſaw the horſe afterwards at Newmarket in the fineſt order in the world, and if I was not convinced of the ſkill of the groom, I had no doubt about the ſound conſtitution and good fortune of the horſe.

The error is ſtill more groſs, to over-train horſes of naturally weak ſtamina and irritable habits; ſuch ſhould always have a due portion of fleſhy ſubſtance left to ſupport the tremulous and flagging fibres. I ſuſpect the uſual routine of exerciſe is always too ſevere for theſe, but from its being general and common to them all, its ill effects are leſs apparent. There are horſes which become bone lean in two or three weeks exerciſe; I would aſk, why continue to ſweat ſuch, ſince they appear to have no fatty ſubſtance left to ſweat away? It would be anſwered, theſe horſes carry their fat within them, as Quakers and dark lantherns do their light, and that the ſweats are farther intended to improve their wind. Waſhy horſes particularly, I believe, get rid of their internal fat firſt, and for the ſake of their wind, would it not be better to ſweat or rather give them a four-mile moderate gallop, in only their ordinary clothes, without any additional weight; which, ſurely, to the amount generally laid on, muſt help to relax and debilitate in a very conſiderable

conſiderable degree. I have ſeen ſome of your hot fly-a-way racers, ſo exceſſively influenced by nervous affection, that their lives ſeemed to be one continued ſtate of anxiety and inquietude. Theſe are always found awake to dreadful expectation; the groom touching their body-girth, ſets their hearts palpitating, the act of taking down the ſaddle operates as a cathartic to the imagination, which, from ſympathy, is inſtantaneouſly followed by viſible effects; they well know the ſweating day, and the ſight of the ſweating clothes gives them a fit of the horrors. The ſecret of training theſe horſes, is, I ſhould think, to give them as little work as poſſible, and that by themſelves; to endeavour to render their exerciſe rather a pleaſure, than a fatigue and a terror to them, and not to be alarmed at the little extra fleſh they may bear, which will ſurely rather help to carry them through, than retard their courſe.

I muſt here remark upon an eſtabliſhed doctrine of the ſtables, "that half-breds won't "ſtand training:" there is no doubt, that full-bred cattle are naturally beſt adapted to ſuch purpoſe, but the inability of the others to endure this diſcipline, ariſes chiefly from its ſeverity, and the want of its proper adaptation to their natural powers. There is comparative ſpeed and ſtoutneſs in every variety of the horſe;

horſe; and Bracken has ſaid, that by proper training, he could enable even a cart-horſe to run up to his foot. A remarkable quality in the race-horſe, is, that which is ſtyled in the language of the turf, running to the whip; it means anſwering every ſtroke of the whip with an additional exertion, as long as nature laſts. Horſes of this generous kind are termed "honeſt," and "ſtout;" but the terms are uſually confounded, for many a horſe is honeſt, without being endowed with thoſe conſtitutional powers neceſſary to produce ſtoutneſs or continuance; and many which poſſeſs thoſe in the ampleſt meaſure, which they occaſionally evince, are yet never to be depended upon. It is dangerous to offend theſe laſt with the immoderate uſe of the whip or ſpur, and I have known a winning horſe ſtopped inſtantly by a foul cut under his flanks; I have alſo known, and indeed ridden horſes, honeſt and ſtout as the courſe was long, yet with ſuch indignant ſtomachs, and ſuch critical ſkill in their own powers, that being convinced in a race, of the impoſſibility of ſucceſs, if abuſed with the whip, they would inſtantly ſhorten their ſtroke; but if nurſed, and encouraged with a pull, the uſe of which every jockey knows, would, although beaten, ſtrain every nerve to the laſt extremity. It is a ſtrange quality in the true whipped horſe, that he ſeems really

really to have a penchant for the whip and ſpur, ſince he abſolutely will not keep to his ſtroke without the one or other of them, and never takes offence at either.

I hope my brother jockies will pardon my want of orthodoxy, if I ſhould preſume to hint a doubt of the utility of that tumultuous whipping and ſpurring, and looſing of bridles, which uſually takes place at the ending poſt; I fear the advantage exiſts only in their own agitated imaginations. According to my conſtant obſervation, a horſe all-abroad, if whipped and looſed at the ſame time mechanically flies upwards with his fore feet, by which he loſes ground; if he be already running diſtreſt, and at the very ultimate point of his ſpeed, what is the intent of exceſſive whipping and ſpurring—is it to keep him there? I ſhould rather ſuppoſe it flurries nine horſes in ten out of a certain portion of their ſpeed. The attempt to whip a horſe beyond the ultimate point of his powers, would be very proper in a race over Moorfields, St. Luke's mile. Thus much on the rationale of whipping, in behalf of truth and humanity.

But it is with the utmoſt pleaſure I remark, that the general treatment of race-horſes is mild and conſiderate, and well befitting that ſuperiority which racing grooms challenge over all others. This profeſſional humanity has

has even pervaded the circle of the repoſitory, where in the ſtall, and in the ſhew, a bred horſe is treated with diſtinguiſhed mildneſs; unleſs unfortunately he be worn-down and low-priced, in which caſe, according to univerſal analogy, being poor, he can poſſeſs no rights.

The tendons of running cattle, particularly colts, being ſo liable to injury, I would recommend as a preventive, the frequent uſe of the embrocation preſcribed in the Stable Chapter, on the application of which, enough has already been ſaid. It has ſometimes appeared to me, that the leathern muzzles in uſe in the ſtables, are too heavy and heating; I believe I caught the notion, right or wrong, from Gervaſe Markham; who tells his ſporting readers, that leather, being dreſſed with allum and coarſe oil, is by reaſon of its ſharp diſagreeable ſcent and ſaltneſs, very hurtful to horſes, and productive of ſickneſs, head-ache, and coſtiveneſs; for this reaſon he recommends muzzles of pack-thread, or whip-cord in ſummer, and others of ſtrong canvas, in winter; both which kinds, it ſeems, had become faſhionable in his time, although they have been long ſince laid aſide.

I hope I have now ſaid enough upon the ſubject of running horſes and training, to be a guide to the inexperienced, which is all I propoſed;

poſed; and to enable a gentleman, who may have made a private match for his amuſement, to train his horſe with propriety at home, if he ſhall ſo chuſe. A little phyſic, a week's interval from the ſetting of it, and two or three ſweats, will fit a horſe (previouſly at hard meat) for this entertaining, but leſs important buſineſs of the courſe. The advantage in this private way, of poſſeſſing a racer which ſhews little or no blood to common obſervers, muſt be obvious to every one; ſuch an one for example, as the gelding, Bauble, by Lord Chedworth's Snap, which was able to carry twenty ſtone, and appeared like a little pack-horſe, or a Suffolk horſe, adapted to carry hampers, and yet won many times at Newmarket, and a number of country plates.

On the ſubject of BETTING I ſhall be ſilent, from total inexperience; never, to the beſt of my recollection, having made a dozen bets in my life, and the few I really made, being of the moſt trifling amount. I ſhall therefore refer the reader to Gard's Guide to the Turf, ſold by Weatherby; and to the Academies at Newmarket and Tatterſal's, where, if his pockets be well lined, he will not fail to meet with able tutors. Inſtead of a tedious, and probably inſufficient lecture on betting, I will preſent a betting anecdote; which may perhaps never before have been in print, or have been long forgotten.

forgotten. About forty years ſince, according to my authority, the Lord March being at York Meeting, made a bet with a farmer, who was a ſtranger to his Lordſhip, of courſe the man's name was particularly required. The farmer anſwered, "my name is DICK HUTTON, I thought every body had known me, "for I come here every meeting, and generally "bring two or three hundred pounds in my "pocket, either to win or loſe; and pray now, "what may be your name?" The peer replied, his name was March, he was Lord March— "O ho! ſaid Dick, if that be the caſe, come, "ſtump! ſtump! for as your name is March, "you may perhaps take it into your head to "march off." His Lordſhip was highly diverted with the honeſt bluntneſs of the man, and, it ſeems, every meeting afterwards, enquired particularly for his old acquaintance Dick Hutton. I tell this little tale of his Grace of Queenſbury with the more boldneſs, ſince, if it want authenticity, it contains no matter of offence; the idea of having wantonly or unjuſtly wounded the mind of either noble or plebeian, would inflict the ſeverer wound upon my own breaſt.

Much has ever been ſaid, and more imagined, of the ſtratagems and manœuvres of the courſe;—and is it not very natural, that ſuch ſhould be practiſed in a ſyſtem, the very eſſence of which is the production of pleaſure and pro-

fit, from the exerciſe of the keener faculties of the mind? A juſt diſcrimination here, as well as elſewhere, muſt be our moral guide. Stratagems are ſurely lawful in horſe-racing, as well as in love and war. I ſhall not dilate, or philoſophize much on this head, but touch immediately on a material point, and that lightly. Is it inconſiſtent with the honour of a ſporting gentleman, to ſtart his horſe with the intention of loſing? In my opinion, by no means; I hold it to be a manœuvre, in which is involved much of the general intereſt of ſporting, and which ought to be eſteemed legitimate, with the proviſo, that no cruel or unfair methods are uſed to compaſs it. A ſportſman may want a good trial for his horſe, the ſtate of his betting account may require the meaſure, or he may have ſome future heavy engagement, for the ſake of which it might not be ſafe previouſly to diſtreſs his horſe, although an eaſy race might conduce to his own pleaſure and profit. The matter being univerſally thus underſtood, would make the point of honour clear, which is perhaps at preſent rather dubious. What a curious and entertaining match would be that, between two eager candidates for loſing? I have heard of barbarous and raſcally methods being put in practice to incapacitate a horſe, ſuch as giving drugs, or filling his body with water near the time of ſtarting, but not amongſt gentlemen;

gentlemen; yet truth obliges me to record one inſtance, in which I hope I was miſinformed. It was ſaid ****** received three parts of a pail-full of water, to enable him to be beat decently over the courſe, by *********. Every ſportſman, I hope, holds in equal deteſtation with myſelf, the memory of the brutal and callous-hearted Frampton, who dead to the ſoft feelings of compaſſion, and urged by ſordid motives of gain, cut his favourite horſe, Dragon, and ran him inſtantly to death in his ſtreaming blood! Was there not one ſingle atom of the ſweet, but furious and vindictive enthuſiaſm of humanity, in the hearts of the ſpectators? Was there no inſtrument of vengeance at hand, to **** *** *** ******* ******? I never view the portrait of that ſavage ſportſman, without diſcovering in the hard lines of his face, and the knowing leer of his eye, all the treachery, cunning, and inhuman profligacy, of the loweſt blackguard retainer of the ſtable. A labouring ſmith of Yorkſhire aſſured me laſt year (but I will not warrant the goodneſs of his authority) that certain irons, which had the appearance of being inſtruments of torture, were found in the houſe of old Frampton after his deceaſe.

It is univerſally known, that by the cuſtom of England, all diſputes relative to the affairs of the turf, may be referred to the opinion of the

Jockey Club; a ſociety compoſed of men of exalted rank, and high character, whoſe deciſions have ever been honourably diſtinguiſhed for their equity, and whoſe ſcrupulous regard to their reputation, as a public body, has never been queſtioned.

I ſhall conclude *à là mode* with a copy of verſes in character, for the excluſive benefit (at preſent) of my Latin readers: I would have preſented my Engliſh ones with a metrical verſion, but—

> Certes I have theſe many days
> Sent mine poetic head to graze,

and not prematurely neither, for to ſpeak the honeſt truth of myſelf, they were, *ignavum pecus*, a miſerable and droniſh herd, as ſome of my ſatyric and laughing friends can bear me witneſs. The following poetic deſcription of a race over Newmarket, I have borrowed from the Britannia, in the ſplendid folio of Lord Hampden, printed and publiſhed in Italy. In this piece his lordſhip has attempted, in imitation of the beſt poets, to render his language expreſſive of, or an echo to the ſenſe; and if my partiality for the ſubject does not miſlead me, with conſiderable ſucceſs. I have however by no means any predilection for the crabbed, unmuſical, and uncouth latinity of the moderns in general.

"Hinc

" Hinc & aluntur Equi, ſuperant qui curſibus auras.
" I, pete planitiem, quam *ditis* nomine dicta
" *Foſſa* ſecat: curtoque viret qua ceſpite campus!
" Ecce dato ſigno Sonipes, jam carcere miſſus,
" Cui nitidè tunicatus eques, leve pondus, inhæret;
" Devoret & campum, neque ſummas atterat herbas,
" Ocyor accipitris, vel hirundinis ocyor ala:
" Ut ſtadio extremo, cum jam rivalibus inſtat,
" Præcipitet ſeſe, vireſque acquirat eundo!
" Tum neque pulmoni, neque nervo parcitur ulli!
" Ventre putes modo radere humum, modo labere aura.
" Permiſtus ſudore cruor fluit undique coſtis,
" Labra madent ſpumïs, & gutture captat hiante
" Flamina; ſingultum dum naribus exit anhelis
" Fumus, & inflatæ turgent per corpora venæ.
" Tum magis atque magis, ferit ungula crebrior herbam:
" Emicat accenſus palmæ proprioris amore;
" Exultanſque animi, nunc hunc, nunc præterit illum:
" Ingeminat clamorque virum, clangorque flagorum;
" Metaque victorem tota cervice fatetur:
" Nec mora, lætus herus *munus regale* reportat."

Will neither Southey, Coleridge, or George Dyer, befriend a brother democrat, unbleſſed by the muſe, on this occaſion? But will they allow him to be a thorough democrat, who is ſo ſtrenuous an advocate for the ſacred and indefeaſible right of property, as even to write in favour of foreſtallers, and who entertains no ſort of prejudice againſt rank and title in a ſtate?

Now that I am upon the ſubject, let me be permitted to adduce an example or two from antiquity, of that precious gift, or art, in poetic

compoſition, juſt ſpoken of. Whenever I ſtand muſing upon the ſhore, to view the undulating ſurges, agitated and impelled onwards by the boiſterous influence of the *nubilus auſter*, the ſight produces an inſtant glow of the imagination, as if from ſympathy between the ſwelling tide in my heart, and the foaming billows at my feet; and that majeſtic and beautifully expreſſive line of Virgil, never fails to join in the pleaſing aſſociation, by ſpontaneouſly preſenting itſelf to my memory,

Et vaſtos volvunt ad littora fluctûs.

The following celebrated verſe

Vade, age, nate, voca Zephyros, & labere pennis.

was Engliſhed by the late Dr. Coyte, of facetious memory, with more humour than correctneſs,

Come here you muſt, you dog, take your a— in your hand, and be off in a canter.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

ON VETERINARY MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

AMONGST the improvements of theſe latter times, the extenſion of a regularly cultivated ſyſtem of veterinary practice, and the attempts to reſcue the ſuperior claſſes of domeſtic animals from the torturing hand of preſumptuous ignorance, are not the leaſt conſiderable, either in the view of humanity or uſe: it is true, that during the various ages which have paſſed ſince the days of Columella, the number of writers treating on the veterinary ſcience, according to the beſt medical light which their times afforded, has been conſiderable; but their works had never any very extenſive circulation, competent practitioners were wanted to put their precepts in force, and diſeaſed animals were either totally neglected, or confided to the unmeaning and capricious efforts of the illiterate vulgar: entirely to wipe away this opprobrium of humanity and common ſenſe, would infinitely redound to the credit of the preſent times; and it is conſoling to be able to announce, that attempts are daily making towards that beneficent end, by conſiderate and philanthropic

thropic characters, in various parts of our own, and a neighbouring country.

The endeavour to promote veterinary practice amongſt enlightened men, muſt neceſſarily be a firſt object in a treatiſe profeſſing the principles of humanity: it is our buſineſs then to enquire, what cauſes have hitherto operated, or now ſubſiſt, to prevent or retard its progreſs; to demonſtrate how little they conſiſt with right reaſon, and to propoſe ſuch practicable meaſures, as may effect, by eaſy and gradual ſteps, the deſired reformation.

Ancient preſcription and a falſe pride amongſt the faculty, compoſe the two-fold cauſe which has hitherto generally deprived our domeſtic animals of the benefits and comforts of regular medical and ſurgical aſſiſtance. Cattle have always been doctored in every country, either by their attendants, or by men pretty nearly upon a level with thoſe in point of education, who on the ſtrength of having learned to perform the moſt ſimple and common operations, and from the want of abler proficients, have undertaken the arduous taſk of preſcribing medicine. We will not wonder, that in former times, ſuch profeſſors were held duly qualified, ſince men impartially committed their own perſons to the hands of ignorant barber-ſurgeons, and ſince ſo many other abſurdities of equal magnitude ſubſiſted, which like ſpectres and ghoſts have vaniſhed

niſhed at the approach of modern light; but it may well be thought ſurpriſing, that in this diſcerning age, when a liberal education is univerſally acknowledged to be abſolutely neceſſary to the aequiſition of medical ſcience, that an illiterate farrier ſhould be entruſted in the cure of diſeaſes. Preciſely the ſame ſtudies, phyſiological, anatomical, and medical, are requiſite for the veterinarian, as the human practitioner. The animal œconomy in its manifold relations is generally and fundamentally the ſame, in men and beaſts, and governed by the ſame laws of nature and natural mechanics; the ſame *materia medica* is univerſally applicable to both, but the greateſt ſkill is requiſite to form a judgment on the diſeaſes of brutes, from their inability to deſcribe their feelings, and the conſequent uncertainty of their pathology. Can there be a greater burleſque, than the ſuppoſition of a man's ability to preſcribe phyſic for a horſe, merely becauſe he underſtands how to groom or ſhoe him? or might not we alſo, with equal reaſon, employ our own ſhoemakers, in taking meaſure of our health? The plea of experience is futile, from the utter inability, *primâ facé*, of illiterate and uninformed men to inveſtigate the principles of ſcience, and their total want of opportunity to acquire, even by rote, a rational ſyſtem of practice. The whole ſtock of medical knowledge of theſe practitioners, uſually

conſiſts

conſiſts in a certain number of receipts derived from their maſters or fathers, and with which they continually ring the changes in all caſes, right or wrong, hit or miſs; and ſo fiercely are they bigotted to their particular noſtrums, that they are totally incapable of all advice or improvement; the common and unavoidable fate of confirmed ignorance, ſince it is the higheſt point of knowledge, to know that we ſtill need information. They ſometimes cure by luck, ſeldom by wit, but often kill by regularly adapted proceſs. How often has the miſerable patient's ſhoulder been pegged, and blown, and bored, by way of puniſhment, for the folly of getting himſelf ſtrained in the back ſinews of the leg, or coffin-joint? How many pleuritic horſes have been killed outright, by ardent and ſpicy drenches, which might probably have cured the cholic, had they been afflicted with it? How many have been rendered incurably lame, from the patten-ſhoe being affixed to the wrong foot; the doctor unfortunately not being aware of the difference between conſtriction and relaxation, as the patient in Gil Blas died becauſe his phyſician did not underſtand Greek? Let not the reader ſuppoſe theſe to be mere flouriſhes, applied to the generality of farriers within my knowledge, I aver them, on the experience of many years, to be literal truths; and by the tenor of them, he may judge of the majority of

that

that faculty throughout Europe. Into ſuch hands do we commit diſtempered animals which have it not in their power to reproach us with their accumulated ſufferings; mankind from prejudice, indolence, and want of feeling, neglecting thoſe creatures which they can purchaſe with their money.

Dr. Hacket, in his late travels through Dacia and Sarmatia, relates the following wonderful feat of a farrier at Roman, in Moldavia. "It "was a hot day, and we having travelled far, "one of our beſt horſes fell, and we gave him "up for loſt. The farrier, who in Moldavia is "always a gipſey, comforted us by undertaking "to ſet the horſe upon his legs, and recover him "perfectly in a quarter of an hour, which en-"gagement he really performed. He did no-"thing but ſcoop out from each upper eye-lid "of the beaſt, a gland the ſize of a hazle-nut, "without bleeding him, or uſing any other "means whatever, which might occaſion a "doubt as to the efficacy of his operation." Who can be ſo ſceptical as to doubt of the cloſe affinity between cauſe and effect in this cure?

But the pride of medical gentlemen will not ſuffer them to incur the fancied degradation of becoming horſe and cow doctors; thence the major part of the public is neceſſitated to commit the care of their beaſts to unlearned and empyrical hands; nevertheleſs were there a cordial

dial and general encouragement, I am convinced there would be no want of able veterinary practitioners. What poſſible ſhame can or ought to be annexed to the practice of veterinary medicine, ſince it is an act of humanity, of important public ſervice, ſince it has engaged the attention and the labours of ſome of the moſt eminent men of both ancient and modern times, and ſince the uncontroulable nature of things has placed the juſt adminiſtration of it out of the power of all but the enlightened? It muſt then be pronounced an honourable office, and altogether fit and becoming the *homo generoſus*, or gentleman.

It hath been related, that veterinary writers have not been wanting; which has been more particularly the caſe during the preſent century, and ſubſequent to the great modern improvements in medicine. Various able practitioners have alſo occaſionally ariſen among us, and in a neighbouring country; but the number of ſuch has been ſo ſmall, that the benefits derived from their efforts have been of courſe confined to a very narrow ſphere. It was many years ago diſcovered in France, that the beſt remedy for this defect, and the only adequate method for the general propagation of veterinary knowledge, and the rearing of a ſufficient number of perſons properly qualified in that line, would be to erect public ſeminaries expreſsly dedicated

to

to the purpoſe. We of this country came (ſomewhat late indeed) into the ſame ſalutary meaſure; and a Veterinary College, or Hoſpital for Cattle, has been eſtabliſhed at London; another near Birmingham, and I believe one or two more are under conſideration, in different parts of the kingdom. The propriety of theſe ſteps, and the benefits derived therefrom, are matter of proof, in the obvious extenſion of veterinary knowledge, and the increaſe of practitioners within theſe few years. Public inſtitutions, provided they are not unduly favoured with excluſive privileges, or armed with coercive and reſtrictive powers, are ever moſt efficacious and contributory to the advancement of ſcience; a prominent inſtance of the truth of which we are at this moment witneſſing, in the late eſtabliſhment of a board of agriculture, which in its infancy has already conferred benefits of the moſt important nature on the country, and in a much larger proportion than could poſſibly have been experienced from mere private exertions, or thoſe of ſocieties however favourably conſtituted, during a great length of time. To make uſe of a homely proverb, that which is every body's buſineſs is uſually held to be no man's buſineſs, and therefore demands the foſtering hand of the community: the ſcattered rays of knowledge are by joint and public means beſt collected into a common

focus,

focus or centre, whence they are with more eaſe and expedition, diffuſed and circulated throughout the whole body of the commonwealth.

For the ſatisfaction of ſuch of my readers at a diſtance from the metropolis, who may yet be uninformed, and out of reſpect to a public inſtitution, the principle of which has my moſt cordial approbation, I ſhall give a ſhort account of the Veterinary College, firſt eſtabliſhed in the year 1792, at St. Pancras, London. The public are indebted for this truly national foundation, to the diſcernment and patriotic principles of the Agricultural Society of Odiham in Hampſhire, and for the firſt very celebrated profeſſor, the late Charles Vial de Saint Bel, to the judicious recommendation of the Earls Groſvenor and Morton, the former of which noble lords, is the greateſt breeder of horſes, I believe, which has ever been in Britain. Saint Bel had previouſly ſignalized himſelf in this country, as a veterinary anatomiſt, by his memorable diſſection of the famous race-horſe Eclipſe.

The Veterinary College is ſupported by annual, or perpetual ſubſcription. The annual ſubſcription is two guineas, but the prompt payment of twenty guineas, conſtitutes a ſubſcriber for life; and in one inſtance, the inſtitution has ſhared the bounty of parliament.

Laſt

Laſt year (1796) the perpetual ſubſcribers amounted to one hundred and ſixteen, the annual, to eight hundred and twenty-four.

PRESIDENT,

His Grace the DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND, K.G. F.R.S. F.A.S.

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Francis, Lord Heathfield.
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Sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, M.P.

I cannot ſo well deſcribe the views and objects of this inſtitution, as from the ſhort ſtatement printed by the authority of the Governors, of which the following is an abſtract:

" The grand object is the improvement of " veterinary knowledge, in order to remedy " the ignorance and incompetency of farriers, " ſo long and univerſally complained of; for " this end a large piece of ground has been

" provided, and a range of ſtables, a forge, a " theatre for diſſections and lectures, with " other buildings, have been erected; a medi- " cal gentleman, of ſuperior abilities, has been " appointed profeſſor, with other requiſite " officers, at an expence, large in the aggre- " gate, but at ſalaries not individually greater " than were conſonant to the ſtricteſt rules of " œconomy.

" The anatomical ſtructure of quadrupeds, " horſes, cattle, ſheep, dogs, &c. the diſeaſes " to which they are ſubject, and the remedies " proper to be applied, are inveſtigated and " regularly taught; by which means, enligh- " tened practitioners of liberal education, " whoſe whole ſtudy has been devoted to the " veterinary art, in all its branches, may be " gradually diſperſed over the kingdom, on " whoſe ſkill and experience confidence may " be ſecurely placed.

" Pupils to the college, in addition to the " lectures and inſtructions of the profeſſor, " and the practice of the ſtables, at preſent " enjoy (from the liberality of ſome of the " moſt eminent of the faculty) the advantage " of free admiſſion to their medical and ana- " tomical lectures. Theſe pupils, previous to " leaving the college, are ſtrictly examined by " a medical committee, from whom they re- " ceive a proper certificate, and ſeveral, exa-

" mined

" mined and approved, have already left the " college, and are at this time practiſing in " various parts of the country with great " ſucceſs.

" SUBSCRIBERS have the privilege of ſend- " ing their diſeaſed animals to the college, " without farther expence than that of their " daily food, and theſe in general form a ſuffi- " cient number of patients for the practice of " the profeſſor and pupils. On fixed days, " the profeſſor preſcribes for animals belong- " ing to ſubſcribers, who find it inconvenient " to ſpare them from home, provided the " neceſſary medicines be furniſhed and com- " pounded at the college: ſubſcribers horſes " are alſo there ſhod at the ordinary prices.

" His Royal Highneſs the Commander in " Chief, having been pleaſed to appoint a " Board of General Officers, to take into " conſideration the objects of this inſtitution, " they have reported the continual loſs of " cavalry to have been very heavy, from the " total ignorance of thoſe who have hitherto " had the veterinary department in the army; " this report his Majeſty has approved, and " henceforward, to qualify for the military " ſervice, a farrier muſt be provided with a " regular certificate from THE VETERINARY " COLLEGE. To this I may add, from a late " advertiſement in the newſpapers, that a num-

" ber of gentlemen, ſubſcribers to the inſtitu-
" tion, attend once a fortnight at St. Pancras,
" for the purpoſe of inſpecting the diſcipline
" of the ſtables."

It would be intirely ſuperfluous in me, to make uſe of any arguments in favour of an eſtabliſhment, the neceſſity and public advantages of which, are ſo ſtrikingly obvious; I ſhall only obſerve, how fully ſenſible I feel of the liberality and patriotiſm of thoſe gentlemen who have ſtood forth as patrons and ſubſcribers, and how much I regret, that there ſhould yet be ſo many perſons of property, having the higheſt intereſt in the ſervices of horſes, and yet gruding or neglecting to beſtow a ſmall pittance towards the promotion of veterinary improvements, whilſt they are often ſo ready to laviſh immenſe ſums in trifling or ſtupid gratifications.

Were I thoroughly qualified to judge of the practice of the Veterinary College, it would not be in my power to deſcribe it, having no connection there, or means of information on that ſubject; but the public may be well ſatisfied thereupon, from the conſideration that the profeſſor muſt be a regular medical man, that his daily experience muſt be great, beſides the manifeſt advantage of a recourſe to the eſtabliſhed mode of practice, and various courſes of lectures of that very able veterinarian, the firſt

profeſſor.

profeſſor. From late enquiries, however, I have learned, that the college practice has in general been very ſucceſsful, and much to the ſatisfaction of the ſubſcribers, ſome few inſtances of failure excepted, in which the prejudice of the reporters (who ſeemed to demand infallibility in a college) formed the moſt conſpicuous feature of the report. Of their form of ſhoes, and method of ſhoeing, I can ſpeak from my own obſervation; to the beſt of my knowledge, they are highly judicious, and I hear of no complaints from the owners of the horſes. Oſmer's ſhoe is at length adopted at the college; the natural conſequence of a trifling variation from that of Saint Bel.

On this topic I am induced to dwell the more particularly, from a motive of juſtice, on account of the irrational prejudice of too many perſons concerned in horſes, againſt the Veterinary College. It is ſcarce worth while to advert to the petulant and illiberal obſervations of Mr. Taplin, in his two laſt publications, but one is urged to it by his extreme, and apparently, intereſted ſeverity, upon the endeavours of other men. He ſays (ſpeaking of the late Saint Bel, p. 175, Compendium) " the celebrated concave ſhoe doomed ſuch " numbers, (particularly tender-footed horſes) " to pain, diſquietude, and palpable lameneſs, " that they were gladly conſigned, by many of

" their opulent and diſtinguiſhed owners, from " the ſcene of temporary celebrity, to a variety " of eſtabliſhed practitioners, for immediate " relief, and a future inſurance of ſafety." Aware of Mr. Taplin's magnifying powers, I made it my buſineſs to enquire into this tale of " diſappointment and mortification," both of different individuals, and of the ſmith who forged the concave ſhoes. I was not at all ſurpriſed to find, that Taplin had ſeen the whole affair through his own glaſs, and that he wiſhed to impoſe ſpectacles of the ſame ſize, upon the noſes of his readers. The truth of the matter is, ſome few horſes ſhod at the College, at the period alluded to, went tenderly, and it was ſuppoſed to be owing to the too great external concavity of the ſurface of the ſhoes; the form was in conſequence ſomewhat altered, and no farther complaints, according to my information, enſued. If the defect was really attributable to the concavity of the ſurface of the ſhoes, it muſt have been carried to an injudicious exceſs, ſince I have ridden one of the moſt tender-footed hacks in the world, with ſhoes hammered externally hollow, without their, in the ſmalleſt degree, preſſing the ſole, years before Saint Bel was in England.

Mr. Taplin's famous plates of pattern ſhoes, " which are to improve the art to the unerring " ſtandard

" ſtandard of eaſe and ſafety," are no other, neither better nor worſe, than the common ſhoes of the ſuperior kind of farriers, of which I made mention in the Chapter on Shoeing; they are inclining to the convex externally, and ſo ſtrong at heel, that the horſe can have no bearing on his frogs; in fine, preciſely the ſhoe of SNAPE and BEVAN twenty years ago. But enough has been already ſaid of this gentleman's boaſted originality. As to the length of the ſhoe in uſe at the College, about which Mr. Taplin deſcants ſo knowingly, it is in truth (and ordinarily has been) governed by the ſame ſtandard as his own, the length of the foot. Can any one in his right ſenſes doubt the advantages, in point of ſecurity, both to rider and horſe, of the latter treading upon a flat ſurface, and reſting upon an additional point of ſupport in the frog? The College form of ſhoeing aſſures this, and I am deceived, if either horſes, or their maſters, complain.

Could a horſe read, it would make him laugh to peruſe Taplin's dapper deſcription of his pattern ſhoes, celebrated as it is with words of high-ſounding termination, and elucidated with geometrical lines, and ſcientific a's and b's. There is certainly a particular light in which this author's works are well entitled to notice; and after ſuch a profeſſional fuſs, who would

be ſo raſh as to ſuſpect, the man knew nothing at all about the matter?

It has been the faſhion with our veterinary writers, to treat the public with after-pieces. Gibſon gave his works to the world, repeated in a variety of forms. Bartlet, after his Gentleman's Farriery, publiſhed a work intituled, *Pharmacopoeia Hippiatrica*, or the Gentleman Farrier's Repoſitory; to this work I alluded in my Firſt Volume, under the name of a Compendium. Wood's Book of Farriery was followed by a Supplement; and Taplin, in conformity, muſt have his Compendium, and his *Multum in Parvo*. In the Compendium, are a few good obſervations, which, had there been public need, a threepenny pamphlet would have contained; as to the *Multum in Parvo*, modeſty and truth, when they ſhall have the honour to be of Mr. Taplin's council, will whiſper to him "to take down his MULTUM, "and let his PARVUM ſtand."

The Veterinary College has lately adopted a very judicious method of diſſeminating the true principles of ſhoeing, by erecting forges in different quarters of the Metropolis, where all perſons may at any time have their horſes ſhod, at the common price charged to ſubſcribers. To obtain a participation of this benefit for the country, perſons of conſequence ought to apply to the College for pattern ſhoes.

ſhoes. Certain of my own particular friends having complained, that they could not by any means induce their blackſmiths to change their old erroneous method, I adviſed them to ſend with their horſes the following written notice:

" Mr. *A. B.* deſires his horſes may be al-
" ways ſhod, and their feet treated as follows:
" Nothing to be cut from the ſoal, binders, or
" frog, but looſe rotten ſcales. No ſhoes to
" be fitted on red-hot. Shoes to be made of
" good iron, with a flat ſurface for the horſe
" to ſtand on, web not ſo wide as formerly,
" and weakeſt at heel, that the frog may reſt
" on the ground. No more opening of heels
" on any pretence."

Rather than loſe a good cuſtomer, this has always been complied with, and the happy conſequence has been, that many horſes which before had never a heel to ſtand upon, with ſcarce a ſound place in the cruſt in which to drive a nail, have now the enjoyment of their feet, in a full, ſtrong, ſound, natural ſtate; and my friends, who were at firſt ſtaggered by the prejudice and pertinacious impudence of the ſtable gentry, have at length learned to deſpiſe it as it merits, and to judge for themſelves.

It having been objected, that to weaken or lower the ſhoe heels too much, previous to a ſufficient growth of the frog, might expoſe the flexor muſcle to an improper extenſion, a

medium may be obſerved, until the frog ſhall have grown ſo as to reſt upon the ground, after which there can be no room for farther ſolicitude. What Mr. Taplin ſays relative to the indenting of a thin ſhoe-heel, is intirely groundleſs, ſince a thick one is obviouſly more likely to get within the cruſt than a thin one; the grand defect of the old thick-heeled lunettes: but the danger of indenting is done away with a horſe which bears, as nature directs, upon his frogs. It is matter of curious ſpeculation, how many of the affairs of the world are managed, not merely erroneouſly, but in diametric oppoſition to reaſon and common ſenſe. Diſcourſing the other day with a friend concerning a horſe, he obſerved, "ſo much had the horſe's feet been "neglected, that his very frogs were ſuffered to "grow large enough to touch the ground;" and this ſagacious perſon had juſt ſent to have the defect remedied, which, to my obſervation, was ſo effectually performed, that there was nearly room for a man's fiſt between the horſe's frogs and the earth he trod upon. Grooms and farriers will relate a number of bug-bear ſtories about "a bruiſed frog," I could never in my travels light on ſuch a thing; excepting indeed, fleſhy, diſeaſed frogs, or running thruſhes, on which, reference may be had to the Firſt Volume.

Nothing can be more groundleſs, irrational, and

and vulgar, than that prejudice againſt the Veterinary College, and its pupils, which I have hinted at above, and which actually ſubſiſts, at this time, in too many quarters. Prejudice, I know, on more important ſubjects, has often been trumpeted forth, as not only harmleſs, but beneficial amongſt men; which indeed would be juſt, were there any general utility in the continuance of ancient abuſes. It is the grand buſineſs of philoſophy to provide a counter-blaſt for theſe intereſted or ignorant trumpeters. It has already been aſked of the advocates for our ſhoeing and ſow-gelding doctors, how they came to ſuppoſe, that leſs medical knowledge would ſuffice to preſcribe for the brute, than for the human animal, which can orally depict his feelings, and verbally aſſiſt the phyſician in forming a correct judgment of his diſeaſe. They ſeem to act upon the ſtrange ſuppoſition, that it is much eaſier for an illiterate man to penetrate at once, as it were by intuition, into the *arcana* of the ſciences, than for a learned, or well-informed, to render himſelf ſkilful in the nature and management of horſes. Can a man be the worſe farrier for having learned the neceſſity of making conſtant obſervations of his own, inſtead of acting by rote, and being guided by a few arbitrary receipts; for knowing the nature of the medicines he preſcribes, the anatomy and animal functions of the horſe, and for the making

making all ſuch knowledge his peculiar ſtudy? Now that witches, and ghoſts *of all kinds*, are flitting a pace off the ſcene, it is full time for men to lay aſide the expectation of all other uncauſed effects.

It ought never to be forgotten, that all improvements in the treatment of beaſts have been made by gentlemen and men of ſcience; and to the leſſons of ſuch, received at firſt with averſion, and inculcated by ſlow degrees, the preſent race of grooms and farriers owe their ſuperiority over their predeceſſors. Preciſely the ſame remark is applicable to farmers, and if we except Ellis of Gaddeſden, who was a man of genius and of an inquiſitive mind, it would be difficult to find one who has ever been emulous of diſengaging himſelf from the trammels of cuſtom. Yet far be from me, the arrogance of paſſing ſentence of condemnation upon the whole body of farriers, in the aggregate, or of aſſerting their total inutility. There muſt neceſſarily exiſt, in ſuch a numerous body, men of talents, and of very extenſive practice; but would not theſe men be rendered ſtill more capable in their profeſſion by the aids of education? The force of authority and preſcription is generally an over-match for the reaſoning faculty. Your horſe is ſick—you apply in courſe to a regular farrier—it is a common caſe, the doctor hits it, and ſucceeds; or nature,

reſt,

reſt, and the untaxed bill of coſts, do the buſineſs. If a complicated and dangerous caſe, I ſay it is ſimply impoſſible, even for a man of genius, upon the ſtrength of his own ſingle experience, and without the benefit of regular medical knowledge (which is the experience of ages) to judge otherwiſe than at random. Well, our empirical methodic now commences with ſome one favourite noſtrum, which failing, he proceeds through his whole *circular routine*—and ſhould the animal poſſeſs ſtamina ſufficiently ſtrong to enable him to ſurvive the rude ſhock of this double diſeaſe, of nature and medicine, he muſt needs make a brave nag all his life after, for ſure a trifle cannot hurt him. Should he chance to die (which ſometimes may happen) it is plainly his own fault, not the farrier's, who has doubtleſs done his beſt for the patient. As to the owner, no one can blame him, ſince, like a good ſubject, he has been guided by the cuſtom of his anceſtors, reſpecting "the wiſdom of paſt ages"—nothing remains but for him to pay his bill, and to ſend for the farrier again whenever he may want him. But it is quite another thing, ſhould a horſe fail at the College, or in the hands of a veterinary ſurgeon; the owner ſhakes his head, with a kind of ſerious look of ſelf-approbation, which almoſt makes him amends for the loſs of his horſe; the tale goes round the circle of his friends

friends—" Ah! no, no, it will never do."—It is preciſely thus at preſent.

As Oſmer ſays, " now I will tell you a ſtory:"

About ſixteen or ſeventeen years ſince, an infectious diſorder crept in among my hogs. Many died, and the ſurvivors were in a very unthrifty ſtate. The weather was hot, and the ſtyes full. According to my cuſtom, in all caſes of diſeaſed animals, I conſulted my ſurgeon. He very readily and liberally gave me his advice, and we tried the effect of ſome powerful medicines upon individuals, but without the ſmalleſt ſucceſs; however I am at this day convinced, Hippocrates himſelf could not have given me a better general preſcription than this gentleman, which was, " freſh air, and aperient and alterative " medicines mixed with the food." But my over-looker had heard of a famous cow-leach, or farrier, at the diſtance of about forty miles, a man of ſuch ſovereign ſkill, that no diſeaſe could baffle him, and who my adviſer ſhrewdly obſerved, muſt ſurely know better how to treat pigs than the ſurgeon, who only knew how to doctor chriſtians. Of all mankind, I was one of the leaſt likely to have faith in the poſſibility of miracles; however I acquieſced, the man of practice was ſent for, and after making a bargain for his fee, he ſat out with ample promiſe of ſetting all to rights in a ſhort time. I had already repented more than once, and the firſt converſation

converſation I had with the doctor, evidently ſhewed that I had juſt cauſe. He talked much the ſame as other doctors generally do, who are totally ignorant of the nature and properties of medicine, who are not appriſed of the neceſſary relation between cauſes and effects, and who never fatigue their brains with ſtudying the doctrine of analogies; yet he could bleed, rowel, or glyſter, ſcald for the poll-evil, peg and bore, give a preſſing, or a ——g drink; and (or elſe he lied) cure cows of the murrain, and ſheep of the red water, young women of the ague and yellows, and old women of the trumps and rheumatiſm; nay, for any thing I can tell, might be equal to the celebrated Dr. K—— of Stanmore, the rival of the ſage Dr. ******. This ſkilful leach went into my ſtyes, and cut off about half the tail from a conſiderable number of the fatteſt of the hogs; and, about an hour afterwards, I was ſent for in great haſte to bind them up, that the patients might not bleed to death, and there the matter ended; for I have never ſet eyes on the Doctor, or heard tale or tiding of him, from that hour to this.

By the diſcourſe and publications of the ſuperiors of this claſs, a man with a very moderate ſtock of information will readily appreciate their abilities; as to their publications, the common mode is, the farrier or leach empties his

his budget, or rather rehearſes his *twenty*, *forty*, or *fifty years* experience, before ſome apothecary or other perſon of his connection, who expunges, *adds*, or emends, as he ſees neceſſary, and then arranges the "New and original Practical Treatiſe," and puts it into intelligible Engliſh. To make things ſquare, we will grant the Doctor an African memory, which had ſerved him ſome ſcores of years by way of common-place-book; for farriers, I believe, ſeldom make notes, unleſs it be under their cuſtomers names in the ledger; yet I have known one, who could never write ſix lines of Engliſh in his life, publiſh a very elegantly written pamphlet.

I have this inſtant before me a very ſmall, but high priced book, to wit 130 thin pages, price half-a-guinea, under the name of Downing, a Country Cattle-doctor of note; the author ſeems to ſet great ſtore by his receipts, and in truth they are, for the moſt part, tolerably judicious; but at the ſame time ſuch as an ordinary ſtock of medical knowledge muſt have ſuggeſted. The obſervations are few indeed, conſidered as the profeſſed reſult of many years practice, and the deſcription and appropriation of ſymptoms ſo vague and confuſed, as to afford little light; but the Doctor deals in fine words, which will doubtleſs help to ſell his book. Nevertheleſs I freely acknowledge the receipts, and the *praxis* recommended, much

ſuperior

ſuperior to any ever publiſhed before in our language by a practitioner of that claſs, which is a pleaſing evidence of their improvement; at the ſame time I am convinced there is many a journeyman apothecary, or mere tyro from the College, who, without ever previouſly having had a beaſt by the horns in his life, would in two years practice, produce a much more comprehenſive and uſeful treatiſe.

But the medical reader, or indeed any reader of common information, ſhall judge for himſelf of Doctor Downing's medical knowledge and ability, by the following extracts:

The BLACK WATER. "The cauſe of this "diſeaſe may be any thing that conſtringes the "external habit, either conſtipating or lubri-"cating the fluids beyond their due tone, "forcing an inſurrection upon the veſſels, ſo as "to rupture them, &c. &c." A drink is then ordered of dragon's blood, nitre, roch allum, bole, rhubarb, and red ſanders—next a glyſter—afterwards nitre, prepared ſteel, red ſanders and bole; and laſtly, the following opening drink, *viz.* Epſom ſalts, nitre, and cremor tartar, to be repeated. Upon the virtues of the *opening drink*, the Doctor holds forth in the following extraordinary terms—"This me-"dicine moderates the acrid, incraſſates the "thin, and cools the hot boiling blood; it "ſtrengthens and corrugates the fibres, and

" cloſes up the mouth of the ruptured veſſels;
" it allays extreme thirſt, and obtunds the acri-
" mony of humours, thickens the too thin
" ſcrum; and is a well ſuited medicine in hot
" conſtitutions; it opens obſtructions, and pro-
" motes a regular diſcharge; puts an effectual
" ſtop to diſorders ariſing from relaxed diſeaſed
" veſſels, allays their irritation, and reſtores their
" due tone." *Cedite Romani!*

After the opening drink, the following is recommended with an—'or THIS'—" Bole, red " ſanders, wood ſoot, with 2 oz. ſpirits of tur-" pentine."—Then, as an infallible, and one which generally *gives a turn* to the diſorder in twenty-four hours, a medicine compoſed of dragon's blood and bole, in a pint of the beſt French brandy; two hours afterwards 1 oz. ſweet nitre. At laſt, an enumeration is made of various choice ſpecifics, the firſt upon the catalogue of which, are, hog's dung, turpentine and butter-milk; but the Doctor informs us, that if any benefit can ariſe from them, it muſt be in the beginning of the diſeaſe, " by checking the " ſtomach; and that they can do no ſervice " when the relaxed ſtate of the beaſt is arrived " to an aſtringent one."

In Bracken's days nothing would go down with readers of a certain claſs, but " downright " Dunſtable;" how amazingly the taſte of ſuch is improved, ſince nothing pleaſes now, unleſs

it

it accord with the above elegant and highly finiſhed ſpecimen. This will bring in the half guineas rapidly, whilſt the learned Layard lies neglected upon the ſtalls, ſcarce worth poor eighteen-pence!

Enjoying a public inſtitution in the metropolis, where veterinary ſcience in all its branches, is regularly taught and practiſed; it remains for thoſe who intereſt themſelves in the ſafety and well-being of our domeſtic animals, to deviſe and recommend the moſt proper and expeditious methods of a general diffuſion of the benefit throughout the country. I am about to offer my mite, which will at leaſt have the merit of ſincerity and good intent. Farriers in London ought to be adviſed by perſons of influence, to allow their ſons and apprentices the advantage of attending the college lectures, which are given, I believe, three times a week, and which is indeed already practiſed by ſeveral of good repute. Thoſe gentlemen of the medical profeſſion, attending the London hoſpitals, whoſe deſtination is for country practice, will ſurely perceive great probable advantage in the acquiſition of veterinary knowledge, even if they have no preſent intention to profeſs that branch of medicine. Buſineſs, as is ſometimes the caſe with young practitioners, may run ſhort at the outſet, and the leiſure time might be both honourably and profitably employed in veterinary

practice. Such meritorious and humane occupation could not poſſibly injure the medical character of a gentleman in theſe enlightened times; on the contrary, it would be more probable to procure him connections of the moſt valuable ſort; might be his paſſport and introduction to the families of ſportſmen, and afford him the opportunity enjoyed by Swift's happy Parſon, to

"Drink with the Squire ——."

Surgeons already ſettled, deſirous of attempting veterinary practice, but from their ſituation not enjoying an opportunity of regular collegiate initiation, need not on that account be diſcouraged; they have before their eyes the examples of Moorcroft and Taplin, gentlemen deſervedly of the higheſt repute as horſe-phyſicians and ſurgeons, and who owe their veterinary knowledge to their own meritorious and diligent exertions. The emolument of the former of theſe gentlemen, from veterinary practice, has been ſaid in print, to amount to more than two thouſand pounds in one year. I have already pointed out the original authors, to which recourſe may, and indeed ought to be had, for information upon the ſubject; and have endeavoured to aſcertain their peculiar and characteriſtic merits, by which I have ſaved others the diſguſting and unprofitable labour of

wading

wading through the maſs, both of unſatisfactory and imperfect compilation, and original impertinence. Let me not be here cenſured as too aſſuming, ſince I have frequently heard ſurgeons expreſs themſelves at a loſs what method to take, in order to qualify themſelves for veterinary practice, and even deliberate on the propriety of having recourſe to farriers for that end; others, I have known, commencing their veterinary career with ſcarcely having ever turned over a ſingle page of the veterinary claſſics, or even knowing their names; and when, in ſome difficult caſe, which ſurpaſſed their ſlender experience, they have been adviſed to refer to proper authority, they have, in my hearing, expreſſed their wonder, "that "men, who lived ſo long ago, ſhould know ſo "much." That theſe authors have been too generally neglected of late, and their deſerts ungratefully forgotten, witneſs the ſucceſsful humbug of the Stable Directory.

The enquirer will not only find the analogy between brute and human bodies ſufficiently cloſe; the variations of material conſequence few, and eaſily diſtinguiſhable, and, indeed, already diſtinguiſhed to his hand, but alſo the powers and ſpecific effects of medicine upon brute bodies, (horſes are chiefly to be underſtood) very accurately aſcertained. The horſe, torn from the privileged ſtate of nature, and

domeſticated with man, hath become, unfortunately, liable to nearly the whole of that black catalogue of diſeaſes, whether of the "ſtrictum "or the laxum," of the nerves or the humours, which torment and abridge the days of his tyrant. Apoplexy, conſumption, jaundice, catarrh, rheumatiſm, ſtone, ſchirrous and cancerous affections, are common to both ſpecies, beſides ſeveral diſeaſes which are peculiar to the horſe; the chief of theſe laſt are the greaſe and glanders, but not the farcy, as has been ſuppoſed; for I have ſeen a real farcy, or a ſucceſſion of buds or phlegmons, running along the corded veins, from under the left breaſt to the abdomen, and around to the loins, upon a human ſubject; which I cured, but not under the ſpace of ten weeks (the patient being of a weak cachectic habit) with the external application of a camphorated ointment, and the internal uſe of ſulphur and cremor tartar. There are peculiarities in the ſtructure and organization of the body of the horſe; thus it is generally held at preſent, that he is incapable of vomiting from the oblique inſertion of the *œſophagus*, the ſphincter which compreſſes it, and the duplicature around the *cardia*; although, formerly, it was aſſerted by farriers, and writers of that ſtamp, that both polypody of the oak, and human ordure, would occaſion a horſe to vomit; which laſt, Bracken juſtly obſerves, is a puke

puke for the devil. The horſe is ſaid by Clarke, not to poſſeſs the power of expelling wind, by eructation or belching; which, however, I know by repeated experience, to be a miſtake. Purgative medicines lie an unuſual length of time in the body of a horſe, from the great length and conſiderable volume of his inteſtines: Bracken found the alimentary canal from the œſophagus, or gullet, to the fundament, to be thirty-five yards in a horſe of middling ſize. Salivation is ſaid, by the laſt-mentioned author, and by St. Bel, not to ſucceed with the horſe, for which they aſſign their reaſons.

On the head of ANATOMY, the practitioner need not want ample inſtructions. Our Snape, as has been obſerved, made a fair chart of the body of the horſe, from the deſigns of the Italian Ruini, upon whom he improved. Ruini was cotemporary with that grand conſtellation of anatomiſts, from Veſalius and Fallopius, to William Harvey, who in the ſixteenth and ſeventeenth centuries, revived that wonderful and uſeful ſcience, and brought it nearly to the ſame ſtate of perfection in which it is at preſent found. It was at this period, the immortal Harvey diſcovered the circulation of the blood; unleſs the honour of the diſcovery be more juſtly attributable, as the Italians aſſert, to their countryman, Fra. Paolo; however that be, we know that Harvey was a moſt ſedulous and

laborious experimenter, and that the tender-hearted and humane Charles, his feelings ſtifled by cuſtom, a far more mighty tyrant than himſelf, furniſhed the operator with deer, in different ſtages of pregnancy, to be cut open alive, for the purpoſes of comparative anatomy. A more prudent man than myſelf would ſtifle ſuch a ſentiment; but I ſay, in the face of the world, that if the knowledge, even of the circulation of the blood, could not have been obtained otherwiſe, than by ſuch barbarous and unjuſt means, I wiſh from my ſoul it had for ever remained a ſecret; and that the diſcoverer himſelf, and the king who miniſtered to his profeſſional cruelties, (favourably, or rather fondly and partially, as I was ever diſpoſed to judge of that monarch's character) had never exiſted.

Gibſon copied Snape's anatomical plates, making certain improvements, which will appear on collation; our latter horſe-anatomiſts have, generally, taken for their guides the two former. Bracken, in his tranſlation of La Foſſe, complaining of Gibſon's plates, promiſed a new edition of thoſe of Snape, with annotations, to be publiſhed by Oſborne, which I know not whether he lived to execute. Several perſons, during the preſent reign, have publiſhed the anatomy of the horſe, amongſt whom Stubbs, the juſtly celebrated horſe-painter, and Blaine, a gentleman of the French ſchool, are the

the moſt eminent: the plates of the latter are beautifully and ſkilfully coloured. I cannot help ſtopping by the way a moment, to relate a little anecdote which bears relation to Stubbs, whoſe great merit as an artiſt I highly reſpect, although I know not the man. A few years ſince, this famous painter preſented, at the annual exhibition, a picture of bulls fighting: this, the critics condemned as tame and ſpiritleſs, becauſe the animals were not repreſented with all the fiery and active ferocity of tygers or ſtallions; the truth is, the picture is the juſteſt and moſt natural repreſentation of a combat between thoſe ſedate and heavy animals, the bulls, which is any where to be found on canvas, and which the painter had often ſeen in nature—his critics never.

There are many caſes in which it might be advantageous to all parties, for a farrier to act under the directions of a medical gentleman; farther, a medical man, either of town or country, deſirous, but unable from various cauſes to pay a ſtrict perſonal attention to veterinary practice, might, with advantage, retain a farrier of experience for that purpoſe. I have often thought that a horſe-ſurgeon, ſituated within ten or twelve miles of London, where good paſtures and convenient ſtraw-yards were to be had, and whither, greaſed, worn-down, and foul draught horſes, might be ſent at a moderate expence,

pence, for cure and recovery, would render great and much required ſervices to the metropolis. Laſt year, a thill-horſe, which had lately coſt forty guineas, fell under a heavy load, and received conſiderable damage, in particular a deep wound in one of his knees. With the aſſiſtance of the farrier's *infernal* ſpecifics, a moſt violent inflammation enſued, in which ſtate the horſe remained weeks, or for ought I know, months, in a cloſe confined ſtable; until, beſides his original malady, he became greaſed all-fours. I ſaw him towards the cloſe of the year, juſt turned out of the hot ſtable into a field, in a cold north wind and rain; he laid unable to riſe, his knee in the above-mentioned ſtate; his heels graped, greaſed up to his hocks, and the horſe not worth thirty ſhillings. Had this fine, young, and valuable horſe, been at firſt ſent to ſuch a ſituation as I have deſcribed, there is no reaſon to doubt, but that in ſix weeks his cure might have been complete. On enquiry, I found the owner had been extremely ſolicitous about the horſe's recovery; and yet had I known, and adviſed him honeſtly, I am convinced he would not have acted otherwiſe than he did. So charming a thing it is for a man to have his own way, whatever it may coſt him.—Were I ſo inclined, I could eaſily fill a thick octavo, with well-atteſted caſes of ſimilar deſcription.

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A practitioner ſettled in the country, and ambitious of extending the knowledge of hippiatric phyſiology, beſide the theoretic aids above deſcribed, need not be at a loſs for ſubjects for diſſection; his habits of life alſo, will neceſſarily bring him practically acquainted with the horſe, in which, to ſay the truth, ſome of our veterinarians are very defective; and herein it is, that Mr. Taplin, who is an experienced horſeman, and a firſt-rate judge of the ſtatiſtics of the ſtable, has an indubitable advantage over moſt of his brethren. There is, perhaps, no branch of veterinary practice of ſo material import, as that which relates to indiſpoſitions in the feet, tendons, and ligaments of horſes, and, in that reſpect, mere theory, or even mere ſurgical practice, will always be, to a certain degree, defective. To have thorough ſkill in this matter, to judge correctly of the ſeat of defects, and to detect incipient lameneſs in horſes, requires, I had almoſt ſaid a fellow feeling, with an experimental knowledge of the motions and habitudes of thoſe animals: it is, in truth, neceſſary, that a conſiderable ſpice of the jockey be blended with the veterinarian.

To thoſe proprietors, whoſe inclinations lead them to doctor their own horſes, my advice is, that they previouſly lay in a ſtock of good ſound theory, from the original authors whom I have already particularized; and that they conſult,

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as often as poſſible, and always in difficult caſes, with the medical men of their acquaintance: in truth, they may at leaſt aſſure themſelves, that they are not incurring a greater riſk, than truſting their cattle in the hands of common farriers, which, in nine caſes out of ten, is but to rival the practice of the ancient Babylonians, who, having no medical men, expoſed their ſick on the highways, to the mercy, good fortune, or the ſkill, of the firſt itinerant preſcriber. In caſe of the incorrigible ſtupidity, or bigotted obſtinacy of a blackſmith (which laſt is by no means uncommon); it may well anſwer the purpoſe of a gentleman who keeps a conſiderable number of horſes, and has, on other accounts, much iron-work to do upon his premiſes, to ſet up a forge. The firſt expence is trifling, and one regular ſmith, aſſiſted by a common labourer, would be ſufficient. This plan is ſucceſsfully practiſed by ſeveral gentlemen.

Many ſportſmen, liberally diſregarding the extraordinary expence, purchaſe all their drugs at Apothecaries Hall, that they may be at a certainty reſpecting the quality; yet ſurely, there are druggiſts of reputation in London, on whom ample dependence might be placed. It muſt immediately and forcibly ſtrike every man's apprehenſion, how much depends, both upon the genuineneſs and good preſervation of the medicines made uſe of; and of the little effect,

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and probable danger of the moſt judicious preſcriptions, where the ingredients are defective, or not to be depended upon. There are various medical articles in which impoſitions are commonly practiſed, and for which, inſignificant or hurtful ſuccedanea are in uſe: of theſe, I hope I ſhall not forget to caution the reader as they occur.

The advantages of ready-made medicines are obvious enough, in regard to immediate convenience, and the ſaving of trouble; it were to be wiſhed there were leſs to counterbalance theſe; but, it muſt be acknowledged, the temptation of putting off bad and unmarketable drugs in theſe compoſitions is great, the hazard of their being ſtale, conſiderable; and the uncertainty not a little, in point of accuracy, where it may be reaſonably ſuppoſed ſuch large maſſes are compounded. Inſtances enough are not wanting, where the diſtribution of the cathartic baſes has been ſo irregular, that one ball has acted as a mere alterant, and another has nearly purged a horſe to death. Nor would I encourage any man to expect ſuccotine aloes, or Turkey rhubarb, in theſe ready-made medicines. I hope the reader will not ſo far miſtake me, as to ſuppoſe theſe remarks levelled at any particular vender, leaſt of all at Mr. Taplin; of whoſe ſkill as a ſurgeon,

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or of the goodneſs of whoſe prepared medicines, I have never heard the ſmalleſt complaint.

As to quack-medicines, never-failing noſtrums, drinks, and cordials, that always ſucceed where every thing elſe fails, and ſpecifics for incurable diſeaſes—

> " Doubtleſs the pleaſure is as great,
> " In being cheated as to cheat,"

elſe how are we to account for the never-failing cullibility of man? Does it never occur to the purchaſers of theſe articles, that a regular medical man muſt ſurely have as extenſive an acquaintance with the family of drugs, chemical or galenical, and that he is, at leaſt, as likely to make a fortunate conjunction between them, as the conjurer who advertiſes his noſtrum? Do they conſider the blunders they themſelves are likely to make in the application? But the quack does his buſineſs by the average, or rather by wholeſale; he fires at a flock, and the buyer, or his horſe, may chance to be of the number. The philoſophy of quack medicines lies upon the ſurface; any man may underſtand it, and any man may make them; the only difficulty is to get money to advertiſe them. As to the pharmaceutical part of the buſineſs, chuſe your diſeaſe, then fix upon the moſt powerful acknowledged ſpecific, clap in

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an auxiliary or two, *ad libitum*, diſguiſe them adroitly, and be ſure make the compoſition elegant, *prob. eſt.* The devil is in it, if ſpecifics wont hit ſometimes, and remember, there is no charge for attendance. But after all, the lucky hits, or the merits of certain quacks, cannot be denied, nor are they, even by the faculty. I have been aſſured, by a ſurgeon of the firſt eminence, that *Welſh's Female Pills* are of the utmoſt efficacy and ſafety; a political writer of faſcinating eloquence, whoſe ſhallow and baneful ſophiſtries, a faſtidious world, inappetent of all wholeſome truths, has admired ſo much to its coſt, has been the eulogiſt of *De Velno's Vegetable Syrup*; and I can, myſelf, ſpeak in high terms of *Story's Worm Cakes*, both as an alterative and vermifuge for children, from repeated experience.

Notwithſtanding all which has been repeatedly ſaid upon the ſubject, and by men much better qualified for the taſk than myſelf, it is ſtill neceſſary to continue giving cautions againſt the general fondneſs for medical receipts. Many of theſe formulæ (particularly thoſe of ancient date) are compoſed with ſo little proof of medical knowledge, or rationality, that they appear to be the meer reſult of knavery or caprice; but granting them ever ſo well adapted to the curative intention, they muſt

muſt be of extreme uncertain uſe at beſt, in inexperienced hands, on account of the profeſſional ſkill required to form a true judgment of the diſeaſe, and the anomalies in the animal ſyſtem. I remember to have heard a country gentleman congratulate himſelf, that he could, at laſt, ſet the gripes in horſes at defiance, ſince he was in poſſeſſion of an infallible receipt; but on getting ſome intimation of the ingredients, I was fully convinced the medicine would, indeed, prove an everlaſting cure in ſome ſpecies of that diſeaſe. I have heard of many ſcore pounds being offered to a cow-leach, for a ſingle recipe, for which I would not have given the fortunate proprietor, the value of the horn, with which he adminiſtered the drench.

In a little book, publiſhed under the auſpices of that Duke of Devonſhire who was the proprietor of flying Childers, there are certain cautions applicable to our preſent purpoſe, which appear ſo rational and neceſſary, that I ſhall copy them in the author's own words, with very little alteration or addition. I muſt premiſe, that this author complains much of the badneſs of the drugs purchaſed by the country apothecaries in his days, which he aſſerts were the worthleſs refuſe of the London ſhops; and that he had a horſe killed by a farrier's drench; the doctor,

doctor, it ſeems, had prepared and boiled another of the ſame kind, but finding his patient dead, he took home the ſpecific for the next occaſion.

" Firſt. CHEMICAL PREPARATIONS ſhould " be had from the moſt eminent dealers in " London, which, if kept well ſtopped in white " flint glaſſes, will preſerve their goodneſs " many years.

" WOODS AND GUMS. Woods ſhould ever " be purchaſed in the piece: in chips they " will not laſt good above a year; in powder " only a few months. Preſerve theſe in boxes " of tin or oak, in a dry place.

" SEEDS ought to be freſh every year. " ROOTS AND HERBS, if native, it is highly " convenient to cultivate at home. Herbs " muſt be dried annually, roots preſerved as " woods and gums.

" BEER, preſcribed in horſe medicine, ought " to be clear; if not, prepare by ſetting it " upon the fire and diſpuming it, or taking off " the ſcum as it riſes.

" WINE preſcribed, muſt not be ſharp or " pricked, or adulterated; if pure, but only " pricked, boil it awhile. The admixture of " cyder, honey, and ſpirits, is a bad ſubſtitute, " and quite contrary to the intention of a cor- " dial or reſtorative; the home-made wines of " this country are much in the ſame predica-

" ment. Good ſound beer is always to be " preferred."

I now proceed to treat particularly of diſeaſes, and the art of healing, on which head I muſt beg leave to recal the Reader's attention to my profeſſions in the Introductory Chapter to this work, that more may not be expected from me, than I ſtand engaged to perform. The *res anguſta domi* firſt made me phyſician in ordinary to my own family, both within doors and without. Should any one be inclined to ſeek in the moral of the old proverb, the cauſe of that reaſonable ſhare of ſucceſs which has ever attended my endeavours, I am content: nay, ſhould the medical men, through motives of either ridicule or profeſſional indignation, think proper to apply to me the celebrated lines of our Epigrammatiſt, I am prepared to laugh with, or at them, as they themſelves ſhall chuſe.

" Fingunt ſe cuncti medicos, Idiota, prophanus
" Judæus, Monachus, Hiſtrio, Razor, Anus.

OWEN EPIG.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

ON PURGATION AND ALTERANTS, BLEEDING, ROWELLING, SETONS, GLYSTERS, &c.

ON the ſubject of CATHARTICS, and the rationale of their exhibition, I ſhall differ in a conſiderable degree from all authority, ancient or modern, without however being ſo unreaſonable or preſumptuous, as to expect acquieſcence in my opinions, any farther than I can ſupport them by juſt and ſatisfactory reaſoning; but I may premiſe with the utmoſt truth, that no part of the art veterinary has had a greater ſhare of my attention and practice.

The Ancients purged their cattle very ſeldom, although the cathartic virtues of thoſe drugs, now in common uſe, were then well known. Their favourite purge for horſes, was the pulp of the bitter apple, or the roots of the wild cucumber. The early modern Italian and French writers, were bewitched by the old conceit of elementary humours, and elective purgation; but they were ignorant of the uſe of cathartics, as a mean of promoting the condition of the horſe, which ſeems to have been a diſcovery appertaining to the ſyſtem of horſe-

courſing, and to have received its firſt general ſanction from the authority of the beſt Engliſh writers of the preſent century. Paracelſus, and ſeveral of the writers of that time, affirmed all cathartics to be of a poiſonous nature; nay, Van Helmont ſuppoſed he had proved the propoſition, by remarking that an increaſed doſe of them occaſioned death; by which ſpecies of logic the catalogue of poiſons would be wonderfully ſwelled. The authors of the laſt century were very cautious in their recommendation of purges, particularly the Sieur de Solleyſel, who ſuppoſed they could never be received into the body of a horſe without conſiderable danger; and according to whoſe experience, they had proved ſo pernicious, that he wiſhed their uſe entirely diſcontinued for a ſubſtitution of powerful diaphoretics. In the preſent times, the practice is very rare upon the continent. In Germany, they are much attached to antimonials, and the alterative plan for horſes; in the more Northern parts of Europe, they give warm aromatic powders, with a portion of common ſalt: I do not find that in France they have ever been much in the habit of purging, (excepting in their racing ſtables, when ſubject to the Engliſh *regime*) and even St. Bel could make the ſtrange aſſertion, that the queſtion was not yet determined, whether purgatives ought to be at all uſed in veterinary medicine;

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and that we were entirely ignorant of their relation to the organization of the horſe!

In declaiming againſt the violent and inordinate purgatives, made uſe of by farriers and grooms, our beſt writers, nowiſe inimical to purging in general, have overſhot their mark, by adopting the following ſophiſtry; "the ſimplicity of the horſe's food, conſiſting chiefly "of grain and herbage, ſecures him from thoſe "complicated diſorders ſuffered, and the neceſſity of thoſe artificial evacuations required, "by man." St. Bel has unwarily echoed theſe ſentiments, not recollecting that long bead-roll of acute and chronic diſeaſes, which he had in another part of his work aſcribed to the horſe. In fact, thoſe obſervations apply ſolely to the animal in his natural ſtate; domeſticated with man, the horſe becomes an unfortunate participator in nearly all the diſeaſes incident to his maſter, and with reſpect to cathartic aid, the moſt rational and ſolid experience have proved its peculiar need, and vaſt benefit to this animal, whilſt breathing the impure air, drooping under the confinement, and fattening upon the luxuries of the ſtable.

I hold, that neither man nor horſe, living in a ſtate of luxury (and ſuch is the uſual ſtate of the upper claſſes of both) can ſubſiſt, without imminent danger of the moſt fatal diſeaſes, unleſs occaſionally and frequently aſſiſted by artificial

ficial evacuations. We may as rationally expect a common ſewer to remain free and pervious, which is never cleanſed. The ancient Egyptians ſo much favoured this opinion, that they purged themſelves weekly, and the Romans even out did thoſe; but without being miſled by its exceſs, we may derive infinite advantages from rationally purſuing the principle upon which they acted: we may thence be enabled, in great meaſure, to ward off the myriads of evil conſequences accruing from obſtruction, the diſeaſes proper to which, according to the divine Hippocrates, are of all others, the moſt fatal to the human body. By regular, timely, and ſufficient evacuations, with a very moderate attention to regimen of diet, which however irkſome at firſt, would from habitude become even delightful, I have the fulleſt conviction, moſt of thoſe troubleſome and ultimately dangerous diſeaſes, generally held incurable, might be ſubdued. I will without heſitation inſtance the GOUT, which moſt patients hug as their dear delight, and keep by choice; wiſely ſuccumbing under preſent pains, from the apprehenſion that ſtill worſe might enſue upon a change; a moſt unnatural dialectic, the early general adherence to which would have eternized the ſavage ſtate. It is preciſely thus, that men act with an antiquated, corrupt, and crazy body-politic, and with the ultimate ſucceſs merited by

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ſuch genuine idiopathic inſanity. I refer gouty patients to the Zoonomia, or rather to the living Zoonomia; ſenſible however that moſt of them will be better ſatisfied with the ſage advice of that forenſic orator, who lately pronounced, that God and Nature had decreed the gout ſhould never be cured: it ought to be remembered, that it is the profeſſion, and invariable habit of thoſe gentlemen, to think, act, and ſpeak, in all things, and all caſes, by precedent.

According to the conſtant tenor of my obſervation, it is ſafe and good practice occaſionally to purge horſes of all deſcriptions, confined to the diet of the ſtable, not only for the purpoſe of promoting their condition of wind and ſpeed, but alſo with the intent of obviating thoſe miſchiefs, which never fail to ſucceed overladen inteſtines and obſtructed humours. Whether it be from peculiar conformation of the inteſtines, or his horizontal poſture, the horſe is univerſally liable to retain accumulated excrement; and many inſtances of the ſudden death of horſes have happened from no viſible cauſe, until upon diſſection, balls of very large ſize, and of nearly the hardneſs of marble, have been found in their bodies. Dried and hardened balls of dung will be often ſeen to fall from a horſe, notwithſtanding he may have had a diarhæa upon him for ſome time, nor will the ſpontaneous looſeneſs always clear him from the indurated and

obſtructed excrement without artificial helps. This invariable tendency to accumulation in horſes at hard meat, together with the inſpiſſating nature of the aliment itſelf, form the preremote cauſe of blindneſs, ſtaggers, purſiveneſs, greaſe, jaundice, cholic, and various other kindred maladies, which make ſuch conſtant havoc in our ſtables, and from which they can by no other means be freed, but by timely prevention.

The intentions of purging for condition, or to enable the body to undergo extraordinary exertion, are, firſt to unload the inteſtines of impurities, and to free the ſtomach of any obſtruction which might impede the digeſtive faculty, to leſſen the quantity of blood, and attenuate its quality; that it may be able to pervade eaſily the fine emunctories of the body with that increaſed velocity, which muſt be the natural conſequence of violent exerciſe; and laſtly, to increaſe the ratio and capacity of fibrous extenſion, by relaxing in a certain degree the whole ſyſtem. Hence the neceſſity of phyſic for every ſaddle-horſe, which is expected to be always ready with his beſt performance, and the ſtill greater need of it for the race-horſe, whoſe blood and humours, without previous evacuation, would be in too copious and denſe a ſtate to endure, without danger of inflammation and obſtruction, that ſeverity of exerciſe

erciſe which is neceſſary for his perfection. It is poſſible, no doubt, to train horſes without phyſic; but we always find their legs and ſinews complain firſt, and the beſt grounded experience is on the ſide of the purging ſyſtem; from which, moreover, when judiciouſly conducted, no ſiniſter effects are ever known to reſult. I have heard of colts put into training without being previouſly purged, which, after the firſt ſweat, loſt their appetites, and in a ſhort time became covered with eruption: they were immediately got through a courſe of phyſic, and afterwards reſumed their exerciſe without farther difficulty or danger.

ALTERATIVES, or thoſe medicines which relax and attenuate by ſlow degrees, and which muſt be continued for a conſiderable length of time, are by no means to be preferred in the preſent intention, but ought rather to be confined to caſes of a depraved or morbid ſtate of the humours. I well know that Bartlet was a warm advocate for the alterative plan; but how high ſoever that author may deſervedly rank as a veterinary writer, it muſt be obſerved that his knowledge was confined merely to the medical and ſurgical branch, and that in the equeſtrian, or that which relates to the exerciſe and management of horſes, for ſport or expeditious ſervice, he appears to have had little or no experience; a remark which I have already made

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of certain writers beſide in other reſpects very able, for the benefit of the diſcriminating reader. There is ſomething in the operation of a briſk, and well-adapted purge, which, by ſuddenly eaſing the horſe's body of an oppreſſive load, gives that cheerfulneſs to his ſpirits, energy and vigour to his muſcular functions, and gloſſy burniſh to his ſkin, which are preciſely what we want, and can obtain in perfection by no other means: it finiſhes the ENGLISH horſe—the paragon of the ſpecies—the conqueror of the world.

Many have been the advocates for the BLEEDING ſyſtem, with the view either of the prevention of diſeaſes, or of promoting the condition of the horſe: nothing can be more unavailing and fallacious. Bleeding can have no effect in cleanſing the bowels, the grand object; and its efficacy in attenuating the humours, is very ſmall and temporary: in fact its evaneſcent and ſpecious good effects, have often the ill conſequence of preventing meaſures of a more ſalutary and radical tendency. Phlebotomy is often induced as a habit upon a horſe, which it becomes afterwards dangerous to diſcontinue; an uſage ſufficiently improper on the ſcore of its want of neceſſity; it ought to be reſerved, whether in horſe or man, for thoſe occaſions in the preternatural or morbid ſtate, where it is may be ſpecifically required.

DIEURETICS

DIEURETICS ſtand ſo nearly in the ſame predicament, that it is unneceſſary to enlarge. They cannot have the beneficial effects of a purge, but the latter will, in general, perform all the buſineſs of dieuretics.

The danger of purging horſes, ſubſiſts only in the imaginations of the inexperienced, in the ill choice of drugs, or in their injudicious adminiſtration. The draſtic, or rough and violent purges (and ſuch, on account of their cheapneſs, are generally in uſe for horſes) of courſe make them ſick, irritate and convulſe their bowels, and occaſion frequent violent ſtrainings, after voiding the ſhower of excrement; ſtrong mercurials have ever theſe effects. Such appearances lead to the erroneous concluſion, that a horſe cannot be purged with ſafety; but the mild or eccoprotic purges have no ſuch ill effects, on the contrary, they give a horſe the leaſt poſſible diſturbance, his only puniſhment being the mere ſwallowing the ball or drink, and the temporary deprivation of ſolid meat; and yet theſe confer much more laſting benefit than the former; an opinion of Gibſon, which in ſcores of inſtances I have ſeen verified. The chief of theſe innocent, and at the ſame time efficacious cathartics, equally adapted to the ſalutary purpoſe of cleanſing, exhilarating and invigorating the human and brute body, are,

ALOES SUCCOTRINE, TURKY RHUBARB, JALAP,

LAP, and the NEUTRAL SALTS; medicines ſo exquiſitely fitted by nature to the intention, as to leave us nothing to deſire. I cannot avoid mentioning here, that I have repeatedly ſeen very rough draſtic effects from ſenna, (particularly if the patient be very coſtive) which is reckoned among the milder purgatives. The laſt inſtance I knew was of a pregnant woman, to whom an old nurſe preſcribed ſenna, which, although the doſe was moderate, had ſo unfavourable an effect, that a miſcarriage was apprehended in conſequence. I have been ſince informed of ſimilar inſtances.

Since writing my Firſt Volume, where, in conformity to the opinions of my reſpected maſters, Gibſon and Bracken, and from the reſults of my own experience, I entered my proteſt againſt the uſe of Barbadoes aloes, I have converſed on the ſubject with ſeveral veterinary practitioners; they agree with me as to the ſuperior virtue and mildneſs of the fine aloes, but complain of its backwardneſs of operation upon the horſe, and of the largeneſs of the quantity required; for ſuch reaſons, they have been induced to continue the uſe of the common; but to obviate its draſtic effects, it has become the cuſtom to exhibit it a few drachms at a time, which method it ſeems has ſucceeded. I have not however ſeen any reaſon to depart from my former opinion; and whatever

whatever pecuniary advantage may reſult to thoſe who vend medicines, by purchaſing an inferior kind, ſuch reaſon neither can, or ought to have any weight with thoſe, who phyſic their own cattle. For my own part, I have experienced no difficulty hitherto, in purging even dray-horſes, either with ſuccotrine aloes or Glauber's ſalts. As to the latter, or the purging ſalts, I know of none of our veterinarians who have made uſe of them, they advert to the difficulty of adminiſtering them; nor do I recollect any author who recommends them alone as a purge. But I have been many years in the conſtant habit of purging horſes with ſalts, and with never failing ſucceſs. The ſaline purges appear to me to debilitate the animal body by their operation leſs than any others, and to refrigerate the humours more, they are ſpecific in certain caſes, and in fact the idea of elective purgation muſt be allowed to a certain degree; for inſtance, in the caſe of the abſorbent magneſia, which invariably attracts acids, and from the combination reſults a neutral purging liquor. Many horſes require no other purges whatever than ſalts, and by the uſe of them may be kept in the firſt ſtyle of condition. They are alſo excellent alteratives, as one might fairly preſume previous to experience, by the analogy of the ſalt marſhes, where horſes receive ſo much

much benefit from the peculiar ſaline quality of the water.

Salts uſually prove a powerful dieuretic to a horſe, and are ſpecifically calculated for ſuch, as from high-feeding, and ſtanding much in the ſtable, are oppreſſed with a redundancy and ſuper-agglutination of the fluids, cauſing inflamed eyes, ſwelled legs, turbid urine, which, if long neglected, ſeldom fail to terminate in the moſt fatal diſeaſes. This purgative is ſuperior to all for producing a fine gloſſy coat and high ſpirits. The ſalts ſeem to act upon the contents of the inteſtines, and the animal humours, by a certain peculiar power of diſſolution, rather than by the accuſtomed ſtimulus of other purgatives; and if they do not always produce thoſe liquid ejections from the horſe, which reſult from the more powerful cathartics, they bring away an equal quantity of dung in a ſoftened ſtate. Horſes, which have had their regular aloetic purges, but which, from hardineſs of conſtitution, or defect of exerciſe, have become groſs and purſive, and at a time, perhaps, when briſk ſervices may be required of them, are ſpeedily and ſafely put in order, by a ſhort courſe of ſaline water. But I will make the eulogium of this cheap and valuable article of the *materia medica*, which deſerves the utmoſt attention of all ſportſmen and keepers of horſes, in few words,

words, leſt I ſhould be tempted by my enthuſiaſm, to write a *Currus triumphalis* of Glauber's Salts; or leſt my reader ſhould begin to ſuſpect, that in imitation of the cow-doctor mentioned in the former chapter, I ſhould at laſt, recommend ſalts even as a bracer. The diſcerning Reader will ſmile here, at his ſuppoſed diſcovery of my ſhare of the common weakneſs. All doctors, it is well known, have their hobby-horſical remedies, and methods of treatment, and even peculiar phraſeology. It would be indeed hard upon a writer on horſes, not to be permitted to ride his own proper hobby. We have all had them. Thus, Markham's favourites were oil of oats, and pilgrim's ſalve; Burdon's, a turnip poultice; Dr. Bracken's, cordial balls; Bartlet's, nitre; Profeſſor Taplin's, high ſounding words, ſtock phraſes, and treble refined ſenſe; and thoſe of Dr. Lawrence, the laſt, and leaſt of the catalogue, a looſe ſtable, and *Sal mirabile Glauberi*—Glauber's wonderful Salt! God reſt the ſoul of Daddy Glauber, I am ſure all the druggiſts at leaſt, will anſwer and ſay—Amen.

It hath been hitherto, the general cuſtom to exclude DRAUGHT CATTLE from the benefits of cleanſing and evacuation, by cathartic medicines, but, in my opinion, even without the appearance of reaſon; for, from the general groſs and ſurfeiting nature of their food, and the ſlowneſs

ſlowneſs of their motions, encouraging a glutinous, ſluggiſh, and viſced ſtate of the blood, none of the ſpecies are more in need of artificial helps, in a defect of which, with the intent of prevention, originate thoſe frequent fits of the gripes, ſtaggers, blindneſs, purſiveneſs and greaſe, to which ſtuffed and pampered cart and coach-horſes are ſo notoriouſly ſubject. Salts are particularly uſeful with this ſort of horſes, and the load of dung and urine which I have ſeen diſcharged by them from the body of a dray horſe, has been ſo great, that I have wondered how the inteſtines of the animal could poſſibly contain it.

I have often heard the complaints of private families in the country, who keep a pair of horſes, that they are a perpetual ſource of trouble and uneaſineſs; they are either foot foundered, heavy-eyed, greaſy, or ſo purſive and unwieldy, as to be covered with ſweat upon the leaſt extraordinary exerciſe. Much ſtanding within, and ſtrong nouriſhment, muſt, of neceſſity, produce all this in the gentleman-horſe, even as his maſter and miſtreſs acquire the gout upon the ſame principle. Such horſes ſhould have, at leaſt, four or five doſes of phyſic in a year, with alterants in the interim, if required. It is to no purpoſe to talk of bringing on the habit of phyſic; make your election, the habit of phyſic, or the habit of ſickneſs. Their feet

ſhould

ſhould be well ſoaked in water twice a day; they ſhould ſtand looſe in their ſtalls, and, if it would not give Mr. John too much trouble, or interfere with his attentions to Molly, his horſes ſhould have a daily walk of ſome hours.

Enough has been already ſaid on the regular cleanſing of ſporting horſes, farther, it will be ſufficient to add, in general, that every deſcription will be benefited, and their worth enhanced, by a purging courſe twice a year; and the old periods of ſpring and autumn, are certainly as proper for the purpoſe as any other. Each courſe may conſiſt of three regular doſes of aloetic phyſic, or two, or of one only, preceded or ſucceeded by ſalts; or of ſalts alone, according to the conſtitution and preſent condition of the horſe.

The ſigns of a want of purging phyſic, from the common cauſe, over repletion, are ſo obvious, that it is needleſs to repeat them; but occaſionally, although rarely, a lean and hide-bound appearance may indicate the ſame want; the digeſtion may have been injured, and the appetite depraved, by unwholeſome food; the inteſtines may be choaked up with ſlime and filth, the proper nidus of worms: horſes in ſuch a ſtate acquire ſtrength, and thrive much after phyſic. But it is neceſſary to be very cautious in purging weak and delicate horſes; in fact, it had always better be referred to men of pro-

 feſſional

feſſional knowledge. An inflammatory ſtate of the blood always forbids purging; it is abſolutely neceſſary to wait until the fever ſhall have ceaſed. In caſe of much fleſh, exceſſive fulneſs, heat, and coſtiveneſs, begin to reduce the ſubject two or three days previous to the exhibition of a doſe of phyſic; warm bran maſhes, ſalined water, and walking exerciſe, will, in general, be found fully effectual without bleeding, which ever ought to be reſerved for caſes of abſolute neceſſity. There are horſes of habits ſo naturally coſtive, that a double doſe will ſcare have any material effect upon them; no raſh attempts ſhould ever be made upon theſe with draſtic purges, which may be ſuddenly attended with fatal effects. They are beſt treated with a courſe of ſalts, or alteratives, which have a gradual operation, or laxative glyſters may be exhibited two or three days previous to a doſe of phyſic. The old maxim ought not to be forgot, to forbear purging in extremes of heat or cold, or in wet weather.

Purges are ſeldom given in a liquid form, but in balls, to hide the ill taſte; theſe are of an oblong ſhape, and the ſize of a pullet's egg. It may be of dangerous conſequence to attempt to deliver them too large, particularly thoſe balls which are roſined, and neatly made up *ſecundum artem*; with reſpect to my own old faſhioned method, there is leſs danger as well as leſs neatneſs.

neatneſs. I always form a purge into two balls, frequently into three, merely rolling the compoſition up in a piece of old newſpaper, twiſted at each end, and ſmearing it with ſweet oil.

Very numerous have been the accidents, from the too large ſize and hardneſs of horſe-balls: Hepheſtion, the race-horſe, according to my remembrance, was choaked with one, and very nearly killed. Two or three years ſince, a horſe was choaked by a ſtale ball, at the infirmary of a celebrated veterinary ſurgeon, who performed on him the ancient operation of bronchotomy, but without being able to ſave the patient. Another ſurgeon, this year, in Berkſhire, (I think a Mr. Deane) had better ſucceſs; ſaving the life of a horſe by the ſame means, which had been choaked by the accidental ſlipping down into the gullet, of a ſmall apple, given him by a boy.

The horſe being prepared the day before, by a bran marſh or two, ſhould have his phyſic in the morning, faſting, between five and eight, as the ſeaſon may ſuit. Should the animal be very groſs, foul, and full of blood, and any danger be apprehended from his ſtate of body, a pretty large marſh of bran, without corn, may be given him in the middle of the preceding day, only a ſmall lock of hay at night, a ſmall bran marſh early in the morn-

ing, and his phyſic two hours after. Maſhes alſo are of great ſervice in the following caſe: A horſe in a very unfit ſtate for a journey, from having been kept high without exerciſe, may yet be wanted in a few days, a time too ſhort to attempt to prepare him by phyſic; give a large bran or pollard maſh at night, inſtead of corn, with little or no hay, and two hours walking exerciſe in the morning faſting, for four days, and white water if the horſe will take it; this will make him empty himſelf very much, amend his appetite and wind, and increaſe his powers of performance. Such a courſe occaſionally will benefit horſes of this deſcription.

In the delivery of a ball, no iron inſtrument ſhould ever be made uſe of, ſince it is a rough and terrifying practice, of which an adroit and ſkilful perſon has no ſort of need. The tongue of the horſe being drawn, and held out of his mouth on the off ſide, the operator receiving the ball or roll from a by-ſtander, places it lengthwiſe between his fingers and thumb, which being ſtretched out, he delivers it with a moderate jirk over the root of the tongue; when letting go the tongue, and placing his hand under the jaw, he elevates the head, in order to watch the paſſage of the ball down the gullet. If it has been plainly diſtinguiſhed paſſing down, another ball may be immediately given, ſhould one remain. But ſome horſes will

will retain them obſtinately a conſiderable time, in which caſe a little water may be given, or even poured down with the horn, the ſwallowing which aſcertains the ſituation of the ball. In giving a drink, the horſe's head ſhould be held up with a forked ſtick with blunt points, kept for that purpoſe, but by no means with an iron fork, for fear of accident; a nooſe to receive the fork being placed in the mouth over the tuſhes. Mr. Taplin recommends to draw up the horſe's head with a pulley, according to ancient faſhion, which I think hardly ſo ſafe as the common method, ſince if a ſtupid fellow holds the pulley, and an accidental regurgitation ſhould happen, it is probable the horſe may be held faſt until he is choked. I have however the utmoſt pleaſure in declaring, that I eſteem the account of adminiſtering phyſic in Mr. Taplin's Compendium, as one of the moſt rational and uſeful which is any where to be found, and which bears the indubitable marks of ſound judgment, and practical experience.

I have ſometimes known, even in ſtables where one would not have expected ſuch an omiſſion, that no DRENCHING-HORN has been at hand, in lieu of which, a glaſs bottle is always the dangerous ſubſtitute. Every groom ſhould be provided with a good horn, narrow in the ſpout, and wide in the belly, which will hold full half a pint; and much care ſhould be

taken that too large a quantity be not diſcharged into the horſe's gullet at once, or too ſuddenly, or that one go-down do not follow the other too haſtily, to alarm and excite him to cough, more eſpecially if he be ſhort-breathed and faint from indiſpoſition; but ſick or well, he ought in the caſe of giving medicine, to be turned about with the greateſt care, and treated with the utmoſt tenderneſs and patience. In all equeſtrian management, our grand dependance is in PATIENCE.

Immediately after the horſe ſhall have ſwallowed the doſe, you may allow him to take two or three go-downs of ſoft water, blood warm, and to eat a lock of hay. Small quantities at a time of clean picked hay may be given him throughout the day, and two or three maſhes of ſweet bran and ground oats, which is the proper diet whilſt the phyſic is in operation. Should it be a laxative drench of the neutral ſalts, and other articles of quick operation, his purging may begin in leſs than twelve hours; but an aloetic purge, the ſloweſt of all others, will lie in his body double the time: beginning to operate the following morning, its effects may continue twelve, twenty-four, thirty hours or upwards, according to the power and quality of the medicine, and the exiſting ſtate of the horſe's body. Much has been ſaid and written about horſes being ſick, griped, and off their appetite, during the

the operation of a purge, and of their refuſal of warm water, and of the neceſſity of ſubſtituting cold, and various other infelicities, none of which, I have hitherto been ſo fortunate, as to experience. Good aloes, rhubarb, or ſalts, the quantities being judiciouſly apportioned, and the body of the patient in a fit ſtate for their reception, never gripe or nauſeate. As to the unwillingneſs to drink, noted by authors, I know nothing about it, having always found that the medicine has rather made the horſe thirſty, and that far from refuſing, he would drink warm water ſooner than at other times; but in caſe of refuſal, I ſee no ſort of difficulty, and ſhould inſtantly order half a gallon to be poured down in horns, and repeated every hour, until a ſufficient quantity ſhould have been delivered. Cold water ſhould NEVER be allowed. Inſtances may be produced of horſes, which had taken coarſe plantation aloes, made up with a large quantity of common roſin, and I know not what cheap horſe doctoring or ſale articles, being killed outright by a plentiful drink of cold water, the body ſwelling enormouſly, and appearing as if the animal had been deſtroyed by poiſon. With regard to appetite upon theſe occaſions, I have been frequently obliged to check the liberality of the groom in diſpenſing his maſhes; but more particularly after the phyſic has been ſet, when I

have found the appetite of the horſe ſo keen, as to require reſtraint, leſt the quantity ſhould exceed his digeſtive powers. It is a property of good aloes, to increaſe the appetite and promote digeſtion; the aloe is alſo an excellent diuretic, and, as I have more than once experienced, ſcents and colours the urine, a diſcharge of which is ſometimes promoted in a very ſhort time after taking the medicine. My method of taking aloes is to encloſe it in pellets of chewed bread, by which method the pill has no taſte of the aloetic bitter; a ſingle pill or two will perhaps ſerve for common occaſions.

A horſe which uſually ſtands unclothed, ſhould have a ſheet thrown over him during phyſic. The habitual temperature of air in the ſtable may be preſerved, with the caution of obviating all partial currents, more particularly ſhould the weather turn out cold or wet. In caſe of wet, the horſe ſhould not ſtir into the open air, or where rain may be blown upon him. For want of better convenience, turn him about, and walk him up and down the ſtable, if neceſſary, to quicken the purge. If the weather permit, put on his hood, and take him out two or three times in the day, half an hour each time. The purge operating freely, only walk him; if otherwiſe, let him trot a little, but gently, and at his eaſe, the rider by no means hurrying,

hurrying, but allowing him *his own time* to ſtop during his ejections. In caſe of a cold northerly wind, the leſs he be kept out the better; and additional clothing will then be needful. The ceremony ends upon the phyſic being ſet, namely, when the excrement ſhall have reaſſumed its habitual or natural conſiſtence. After the ſetting, from a week to a fortnight of walking, or very gentle exerciſe, ought to precede labour. No horſe will bear more than one regular doſe in ſeven days. Preſcriptions for accidents, during purgation, from cold, bad drugs, or other cauſes, will be found among the ſucceeding formulæ.

No. 1. The REGULAR COURSE OF SALTS, for a hack or hunter, is from twenty to twenty-four ounces the doſe, the three doſes taking up ſomewhat more than the uſual time. Should the weather be fine, and no danger of wet, the horſe may be moderately ridden, during this phyſic, but no riſks of taking cold ought to be incurred, nor any cold water allowed. My method of giving ſalts, is to prepare the horſe with two or three warm bran and corn maſhes, and to keep him without water, until he become thoroughly in need of it; then take a pail-full blood warm, and infuſe four ounces ſalts, previouſly and thoroughly diſſolved, in half a pint of boiling water; ſhould the horſe refuſe, have patience, and drouth will in no great length of time

time enſure his compliance. Repeat this as convenience may ſerve, until the doſe ſhall be complete, which may be in two days at fartheſt. It is neceſſary to obſerve, that the ſalts ſhould be kept carefully corked up in wide mouthed bottles; for although every one knows, that upon expoſure to the air, they gradually precipitate into a powder, yet all are not aware that thereby about half their efficacy is loſt: again, if inſtead of properly diſſolving the ſalts, as directed, they are careleſsly thrown into the pail of water, to melt at leiſure (which nine grooms out of ten to ſave trouble would do) they will, great part of them, remain undiſſolved at the bottom of the pail, or again ſhoot into cryſtals from the coldneſs of the water, and be thrown away. Not only ſalts, but aloes, jalap, rhubarb, and other drugs, ought to be carefully preſerved from expoſure to the air. But to theſe *minutiæ* the owner of a horſe muſt look himſelf, or at leaſt be very preciſe and peremptory in his directions, unleſs he ſhould think it the leaſt evil, to incur the riſk of perpetual diſappointment. For very large, or very groſs horſes, the doſe of ſalts muſt conſequently be increaſed, and the quantity will be beſt regulated by the experienced operation. I muſt remark, that in this, as well as every other medical article for veterinary uſe, I find myſelf amply compenſated, by purchaſing the beſt kind;

kind; and therefore recommend that the beſt Glauber's ſalts be uſed, in preference to any Lymington, or other cheap ſubſtitute, to be had at the druggiſts. Very frequently, a ſingle doſe will put a hackney into excellent condition; an example of which I have now at hand in a trotting mare, the property of a worthy and reſpectable friend: this mare was purchaſed from the ſtraw yard, as rough as a bear, and rather low and out of ſpirits; a ſingle doſe of about twenty ounces, gave her a ſkin like a racer, ſat her inſtantly to thriving, and put her into a condition to go through her work in the beſt ſtyle.

No. 2. A COOLING PURGATIVE DRENCH, of quick operation. Take the infuſion of four ounces cremor tartar, in one pint or more of boiling water, which has ſtood three hours or longer, and been frequently ſtirred; ſtrain it fine, and mix therewith, or diſſolve therein, upon the fire, ſix ounces Glauber's ſalts; add from four drachms to one ounce jalap, according to the ſtrength required; a gill of ſtrong peppermint water, and a ſufficient quantity of warm gruel, or ale, well ſweetened with honey, or treacle. Lenitive electuary and ſyrup of buckthorn, may occaſionally be joined.

No. 3. The ALOETIC PURGE, for a hack, hunter, or race-horſe, commonly uſed by myſelf. The fineſt ſuccotrine aloes, well powder-

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ed, from twelve to fourteen drachms; cremor tartar an ounce or two; ginger, freſh and finely grated, a tea-ſpoon full; fine ſalad oil a table-ſpoon full; make the maſs with treacle or ſyrup of buckthorn, and ſifted oat flour, into two or three balls. This form I frequently vary and render more quick, by ſubduction of the quantity of aloes, and addition of jalap inſtead: thus, aloes twelve drachms; jalap two drachms. Or, aloes ten drachms; jalap half an ounce. Long experience has convinced me that the fewneſs of the ingredients by no means detracts either from the efficacy or ſafety of this purge.

No. 4. The ALOETIC PURGE, from Gibſon. Succotrine aloes ten drachms; jalap and ſalt of tartar, of each two drachms; grated ginger one drachm; chemical oil of aniſeeds thirty drops; ſyrup of buckthorn enough to form the ball, which roll in liquorice powder or flour. If neceſſary to quicken, add a drachm or two to the quantity of jalap.

No. 5. I have really forgotten the preciſe quantity which I was accuſtomed to give as a purge, to cart-horſes of the largeſt ſize; but with ſuch, an eſſay might be firſt made with No. 3, the ſtrength of it being increaſed, in a future doſe, ſhould it appear neceſſary, to two ounces aloes, and four drachms jalap, beyond that degree of ſtrength I have no experience; nor

ſhould

ſhould I think an addition to it ſafe for any horſe; that quantity not purging ſufficiently, recourſe had be better made to ſalts as an alterant. In dropſical, or other caſes, where draſtics may be abſolutely neceſſary, I believe nothing is more ſafe and effectual than a ſmall addition of ſcammony, in its pure and natural ſtate, to ſuccotrine aloes, with a ſufficient guard of ſalts, ſoap, or oil; but ſuch potent articles require medical knowledge and judgment in the preſcriber.

No. 6. The RHUBARB PURGE, from Gibſon. Fineſt ſuccotrine aloes one ounce; Turkey rhubarb, in powder, half an ounce; ginger, grated, one drachm; make the ball with ſyrup of roſes. This is highly recommended for delicate conſtitutions and poor feeders; OR,

No. 7. Fine aloes one ounce and two drachms; myrrh, fine powder, half an ounce; ſaffron, and freſh jalap powder, each one drachm; make a ſtiff ball with ſyrup of roſes, or marſh-mallows; add a ſmall tea-ſpoon full of rectified oil of amber, roll the ball in liquorice powder.

After looking over all our other authors, I find Gibſon the original authority for cathartic forms.

No. 8. PURGE OR SCOURING, for a groſs and foul coach or cart-horſe. Succot. aloes one ounce; jalap one ounce; myrrh, finely powdered,

powdered, half an ounce; cremor tartar one or two ounces; Caſtile ſoap half an ounce; ginger, finely grated, two tea-ſpoons full; beſt ſalad oil one large ſpoon full; make three balls for one doſe, with ſyrup of buckthorn and liquorice powder, or flour.

No. 9. MERCURIAL PURGE for ditto. Add to the above two drachms calomel, or if the conſtitution and habit ſhould require it, half an ounce.

No. 10. MILD MERCURIAL PURGE. Add two drachms calomel, to No. 4.

Should a purge not operate at a proper time, either from badneſs of the drugs, or cold taken, the horſe will hang down his head and refuſe food, appear ſwelled, heave in his flanks, and frequently throw up his tail without ability to evacuate. In a ſlight caſe of this kind, give the ſize of a pullet's egg of cordial ball, in three pints warm gruel, and repeat it at night and the following morning; in the interim give ſalined water, blood warm, made as before directed, *i. e.* the ſolution of four ounces Glauber's ſalts, to a pail, or three gallons of ſoft water. Walking exerciſe, if fine weather, well clothed, the horſe not being ridden. OR, ſhould the caſe be more ſerious, and the horſe much ſwelled or griped, take balſam of Peru and capivi, of each half an ounce, incorporate them with the yolk of a new laid egg; camphor one drachm, diſ-

ſolved

ſolved in a ſmall quantity of Holland's gin, or other ſpirit, juniper berries and aniſeed, powdered, half an ounce each; unrectified oil of amber two drachms; make a ball with ſyrup of marſh-mallows, and roll in liquorice powder. Give plenty of warm gruel and water. If the additional aid of a glyſter ſhould be needed, uſe the following; thin water gruel three quarts, ſweetened with ſix ounces coarſe ſugar, and well mixed with ſix ounces ſalad, or linſeed oil: if eaſily to be procured, inſtead of water-gruel, make uſe of a decoction of mallows, pellitory, mercury, chamomile, or ſuch as can be obtained, each a large handful, with bay-berries and ſweet fennel-ſeeds, each one ounce, in a gallon of water, boiled to three quarts. As the horſe recovers, give a few malt maſhes.

In caſe of SUPER-PURGATION, or exceſſive working of the phyſic, the very common conſequence of the uſe of plantation aloes, or a too powerful mercurial doſe, give the following, a quart at a time, with the horn, in the courſe of the day: ſimmer gum Arabic and Tragacanth, each four ounces; juniper berries and carraway ſeeds, bruiſed, three ounces; ginger half an ounce, in five quarts of water, until the gum ſhall be diſſolved. Gruel made of boiled rice is excellent in this intention, given either with the horn or in the horſes drink, and the rice by way of maſh. OR, cordial

dial ball in warm ale. Or, prepare a decoction of camomile, worm-wood, freſh anniſeeds, and ſaffron; to three quarters of a pint of this, warm, add a pint of fine old Port wine, in which has been diſſolved one ounce diaſcordium, to be given every three or four hours. The horſe continuing to purge, and to eject even the very mucus and lining of his bowels, (an extremity which I have witneſſed ſufficiently often) the foregoing remedies muſt be perſevered in, with the additional help of reſtringent and nutritive glyſters.

The RESTRINGENT GLYSTER. Either pomegranate or oak bark two ounces; red roſes, green or dry, a handful or two; baluſtines half an ounce; boil in two quarts of water to one, pour off clear, and diſſolve in the decoction four ounces diaſcordium. To be repeated. Or, The STARCH GLYSTER, from Mr. Clarke. Starch jelly, or infuſion of linſeed, one pint; liquid laudanum one ounce, or two table-ſpoonfulls; if inflammation be apprehended, ſubſtitute for the laudanum, twenty or thirty grains opium, well rubbed and diſſolved: I think the quantity (one pint) rather too ſmall. Broths are uſed in this caſe, and flour or rice milk, ſtrained, but oils are too relaxing; yet, the coats of the inteſtines being abraded, Bartlet recommends mutton ſuet boiled in milk, both as a glyſter and drench, one pint every three hours.

hours. Suet, four pounds to one quart milk. Should the caſe have been ſo dangerous that the horſe remain weak, and a reſtorative courſe be required; perſevere in the following a few weeks. Looſe ſtable, uſe of a field or yard by day, where he may be kept from water. Make a ſtrong decoction or infuſion of oak-bark, gentian, carduus benedictus, or the male ſow-thiſtle, and Roman wormwood, and keep it bottled for uſe; give half a pint to a pint in every pail of water, cold. Frequent rice and malt maſhes, cordial ball in ale. Ox or ſheep's gall, half a pint in ale, milk warm, twice a day.

The following obſervations on glyſters, I learned from the reſpectable authorities of Gibſon and Clarke, previous to my experience of their truth. A ſyringe ſhould never be uſed, as the diſcharge alarms the horſe. The proper apparatus is a pipe and bag. To a large ox-bladder faſten a pipe of the length of fourteen or fifteen inches, made of box, or any wood ſuſceptible of a ſmooth poliſh; in ſize, about an inch and half diameter next the bag, and of a gradual taper to the extremity, where the thickneſs ought ſuddenly to increaſe, and be rounded at the point; let the perforation of the pipe be large enough to admit the end of a common funnel, for the purpoſe of pouring the liquor into the bag; certain ivory pipes in uſe, are apt to wound the gut. Place the horſe,

if convenient, with his hinder quarters upon the higheſt ground. In caſe of hardened balls of excrement, always back-rake, with the ſmalleſt hand to be procured, well oiled and nails pared, previous to the adminiſtration of a glyſter. Mr. Taplin, although apparently of great ſkill in all matters of medical adminiſtration, has, I think, very much failed, in decrying the advantages of thus extracting the excrement, frequently a matter of the utmoſt neceſſity in both brute and human bodies; in the latter, it is uſually performed with a ſilver inſtrument, formed like a marrow ſpoon. It muſt ſurely be a great point gained, where we can make direct application to the ſeat of the complaint; as for inſtance, to the blood veſſels by phlebotomy, in a ſtate of plethora and inflammation. In a laxative glyſter, the quantity may be as much as three quarts; but in thoſe of a reſtringent, anodyne, or nutritious kind, which are to be retained, from a pint to a quart is fully ſufficient. I have already, in Volume I. page 56, entered Gibſon's excellent caveat againſt the too liberal uſe of purgative articles, particularly coarſe aloes in glyſters, and have only to recommend, in general, in this intent, oils, ſalts, lenitive electuary, and other mild laxatives. Let your liquid, in reſpect of warmth, be as nearly as poſſible of the common temperature of blood, which being diſcharged with all due caution againſt alarm, hold down the tail

tail a few minutes. Glyſters thus carefully given, create ſo little uneaſineſs to a horſe, that they may be repeated very often, if neceſſary, without much trouble. I cannot avoid repeating a practical remark of Mr. Clarke, ſo much I feel its force. It will happen in colics, that horſes drop, frequently, dribblets of excrement, apparently looſe; at the ſame time the colon may be loaded with *ſcybala*, or hardened dung-balls. The grooms and farriers, like troubleſome and conceited nurſes, judging merely from appearances, and habitually ſparing of labour, and jealous of novelty, decry the uſe of glyſters as ſuperfluous, but on their repetition, are ſurprized at the quantity and ſtate of the diſcharge. The veterinarian and jockey, in all caſes, may *hear* the groom, but muſt conſult the reaſon of the thing. I repeat it after St. Bel, ſtable-people, in general, cannot be truſted even with a relation of facts; their obſtinacy and conceit ever holds an exact pace with their ignorance. Glyſters are of immenſe ſervice, both in the intent of relaxing, aſtringing, and comforting the inteſtines; and the animal body may be preſerved alive, and nouriſhed by theſe alone, for a conſiderable period, when it may be impracticable to receive any ſuſtenance in the regular way.

The COMMON GLYSTER. Two or three quarts thin gruel, ſalad oil half a pint, coarſe

ſugar or common ſalt, ſix ounces. To render it more emollient, a decoction of marſh-mallows, ground-ivy, camomile, and fennel ſeeds, may be ſubſtituted to the gruel.

LAXATIVE GLYSTER, add to the above eight ounces Glauber's ſalts. OR, an infuſion of two ounces ſenna in boiling water, and four ounces ſyrup of buckthorn. OR, Caryocoſtinum, one ounce. OR, Bitter apple half an ounce. Bay berries and aniſeeds bruiſed, one handful each; ſalt of tartar half an ounce, ſyrup of buckthorn four ounces. The bitter apple, berries and ſeed, ſhould be boiled a quarter of an hour. OR, inſtead of the bitter apple, an ounce or two tincture of jalap.

NUTRITIVE GLYSTER. Thick water gruel. OR, broths made of ſheep's head, trotters, or the like, but not too fat. Milk pottage. Rice-milk ſtrained, with warm aromatic ſeeds if neceſſary.

DIURETIC GLYSTERS. Soap four ounces diſſolved in two quarts of warm water, ſalt one handful. OR, one ounce Caſtile ſoap, two quarts water, Venice turpentine two ounces, well beat with the yolks of two eggs. OR, in a ſtranguary, to be repeated: Venice turpentine from two to four ounces, beat up with eggs, add by degrees, two quarts decoction of marſh mallows, parſley and ground ivy, or either, in which from two to four ounces nitre has

has been diſſolved; oil half-a-pint to one pint, and occaſionally one ounce Bates's anodyne balſam.

The CORDIAL BALL was firſt introduced by Markham, who ſtiles it the "mirror and "maſter of all medicines," and pretends it will cure all inward diſeaſes. Every writer, almoſt, has made ſome variation from the original, affecting to have his own cordial ball. Mr. Taplin, I think, has not been fortunate in his attempted improvement of Dr. Bracken's ball. I will match Bracken's *turmeric*, againſt Taplin's *Turky figs*, over the courſe, for the price of both articles. There is moreover ſomething tautologous (if I may be allowed the expreſſion in medicals) in heaping aniſated balſam upon aniſeed, and oil of aniſeed; beſide introducing aniſated balſam of *ſulphur*, after correcting Bracken for the uſe of brimſtone. But *hæ ſunt nugæ:*

BRACKEN'S BALL. Aniſeeds, carraway-ſeeds, and greater cardamoms, fine powder, of each an ounce; flower of brimſtone two ounces; turmeric in fine powder, one ounce and a half; ſaffron in powder two drachms; ſugar candy four ounces; Spaniſh juice diſſolved in hyſſop water two ounces; oil of aniſeed half an ounce; liquorice powder one ounce and a half; wheat flower a ſufficient quantity to make it into a ſtiff paſte, by beating all the ingredients well

in a *marble*, not a braſs mortar. This is the common cordial ball, and I believe deſervedly moſt in repute.

I refer my reader to what I have ſaid on the abuſe of theſe balls, to page 106 of this Volume, and beſides have ſeveral little uſeful items in my memory, very much at his ſervice. In the firſt place, care ought to be taken that the ſeeds be freſh and good, and by no means old ſhopkeepers, and that the oil of aniſeed be genuine, inſtead of one half oil of almonds; farther, that the maſs be kept in a bladder, or a gallipot, well ſecured from air, or damp; and laſtly, out of the reach of two-legged depredators. I have known ſtable-lads, and their ſweethearts, as fond of cordial-ball, as Turks are of opium: reſtorative I ſuppoſe.

The MALT-MARSH from Markham. Upon a peck of ground malt, pour a gallon and half of boiling water, ſtir frequently; in about half an hour, the liquor will be ſweet, and may be given to a horſe milk warm: this is very nouriſhing, either by itſelf, or mixed with gruel of rice, or oatmeal.

ROWELS, or as the French call them Fontanels, are intended to anſwer the ſame end as iſſues in the human body, namely to evacuate ſuperabundant juices, or to cauſe revulſion, or derivation from any particular part, by making a general drain or draught. Rowels have a gradual,

gradual, yet effectual operation, and are of excellent uſe in all caſes of ſtagnated or impeded humours, in recent lameneſſes and ſtrains, attended with inflammation; in ſudden ſwellings from blows, where extravaſation, or burſting of the fluids from their veſſels, has taken place. Bracken has queſtioned their good effects on lean and hide-bound horſes, and in the greaſe; but experience is ſurely againſt him in the latter caſe, ſince rowels have uſually the effect of ſtopping, at leaſt diminiſhing, the greaſy diſcharge in the legs; and hide-bound and unthrifty horſes are often ſuddenly amended by the uſe of this drain, for which, conſidering their emaciated appearance, it ſeems difficult to aſſign a reaſon. It is ſcarce worth while to deſcribe the operation of making a rowel, it is a thing of ſuch common uſe; and every farrier who has made one, in courſe, ſuppoſes he has opened a door for the exit of foul humours excluſively, reaſoning in that ſtraight forward way, that it is a pity it ſhould ever deceive a man, to wit, that a diſcharge of ſuch ill ſavour, muſt needs be of a malignant nature.

Conſidering the laws of circulation, I can ſcarce make up my mind, as to the utility of placing rowels in proximity to the part affected, or whether they can poſſibly have the effect of emptying the circumjacent veſſels, any otherwiſe than by the gradual and cir-

cuitous mode of revulſion; nevertheleſs I think a near ſituation ought ever to be preferred where practicable. The parts proper for their inſertion, are the cheſt, ſhoulders, belly, hips, inſide or outſide of the thighs; but Mr. Clarke objects to their being made between the jaw-bones, on account of the conſtant motion of the jaws. A horſe will bear the diſcharge of a conſiderable number of them at once, which, indeed, in urgent caſes, is abſolutely neceſſary, in order to derive any conſiderable or ſpeedy benefit from the practice. Gibſon gives a very neceſſary caution againſt rowelling horſes of a dropſical habit, with poor and watery blood, and when the ſwellings appear upon their legs, belly, and ſheath; in ſuch caſe, the iſſues never come to a good digeſtion, inſtead of which a large flux of ſerous humours will enſue, and it may be difficult to prevent a mortification. Schirrus and cancer alſo, may be produced, from inſerting rowels near glandulous parts, or when the muſcular fleſh may have been wounded in the operation, or bruiſed by the continual preſſure of the hard leather. Should a rowel have been injudiciouſly exhibited in a diſeaſe, and fail to diſcharge, except a little thin bloody ichor, there is danger that inſtead of ſuppurating properly, it may ſoon turn gangrenous; in this caſe Mr. Clarke adviſes to take out the leather inſtantly, and foment the parts

parts with a ſtrong infuſion of camomile, and to poultice repeatedly, if the ſituation will admit it, alſo to bathe with ſpirits of wine and turpentine, defending the wound from the external air; if needful, two or three ounces Peruvian bark, *per* day, may be given either by drink or ball. The inciſion for a rowel, ſhould be about three eighths of an inch long, and in ſeparating the ſkin from the fleſh, the latter ought not to be wounded or bruiſed, the leather muſt be very thin, not ſtiff or hard, nor ſo large as formerly in uſe; the ſhape and ſize of a crown piece is moſt proper, having a large round hole in the middle: cover the rowel with lint or tow, dipped in digeſtive ointment, and after its introduction, cloſe the orifice with a pledget of tow dipped in the ſame. If the operation ſucceed, the ſurrounding parts ſoon ſwell, and a plentiful diſcharge of ſimple humour enſues; which, in two or three days, will be changed into a thick white pus or matter. The time is indefinite for the continuance of the diſcharge, but the memory of the operator, if he be of the Vulcanian kind, ought to be by all means refreſhed, that he may extract the leather in time, or he will be obliged to cut it out, and a very unſightly induration or lump may remain.

SETONS.

SETONS. The utility of theſe, in the opinion of Dr. Darwin, is very great, from the conſideration that they facilitate the diſcharge of matter from abſceſſes, without the neceſſity of admitting much air, the influence of which upon an ulcer, is the cauſe of hectic fever. In reſpect to ſetons for horſes, I ſhall follow Mr. Clarke, in preference to any other authority, although I can by no means join him in the ſanguine expectation, that they may entirely ſuperſede the neceſſity of more harſh meaſures, in long neglected and inveterate caſes; in truth, I know by experience, ſuch hope to be fallacious. When tumours are taken in time, whether on the poll, withers or back, and have not been previouſly bungled by common farriers, whoſe management in this caſe is often the worſt part of the diſeaſe, they may be carried off, and brought to heal by the diſcharge from ſetons, without any of the uſual butcherly, and cauterizing work, or the leaſt blemiſh or loſs of ſubſtance. Farriers are very apt to proceed with the knife, before the matter of the tumour is fully concocted, by which error they treble the difficulty, and period of of the cure, and moſt probably leave an indurated lump which is never effaced.

The ſeton-needle is a long, thin, ſharp inſtrument, pointed like a dart, with which the practitioner

practitioner ought to be furniſhed, of various ſizes, from ſix to fifteen inches long, bended a little on the under ſide. The ſeton-cord, dipped in digeſtive ointment, being ſuited to the ſize of the tumour to be diſcuſſed, and the matter fluctuating from being ripe, the needle may be introduced at the upper end of the ſwelling, and the point conducted through the whole length, and brought out at bottom; if neceſſary, and for the ſake of procuring a depending orifice, the inſtrument may be forced through the ſound muſcular fleſh. The ſeton being properly fixed, let it be tied together at both ends, or if the length will not admit of that, affix a button of wood at each end, by which it may be drawn upwards and downwards, as when tied, it may be turned in a circle. When there ſhall be no farther diſcharge, and the ſwelling ſhall have ſubſided, withdraw the ſeton, and heal the orifices with any ſpirituous application.

Bleeding. The well-known uſe of bleeding, is in all caſes of inflammation, or with the intent of prevention, in cholic, ſuppreſſion of urine, ſtrains, blows, or other accidents. Phlebotomy, in ſmall quantities, is ſometimes recurred to in weak and impoveriſhed habits, in order to remove the lentor of the blood, and invigorate the circulation; but in inflammatory fever, it is the ſheet-anchor, without the help of

of which, it would be totally impoſſible for nature, human or brute, to outride the ſtorm. I had lately a remarkable inſtance of this before my eyes; the patient was an infant of eighteen months old, of a full habit, and recently weaned, under the innoculated ſmall-pox: the fever ran ſo high, that it was obvious death muſt enſue in a few hours, unleſs the diſtended and throbbing blood-veſſels could be ſoon relieved. No blood could be obtained with the lancet, nor would the leaches readily take hold; however, by patience and attention, and changing their place, they at length did their buſineſs, and the child inſtantly revived, and was ſoon out of danger—Many patients, I believe, are loſt, for want of timely or ſufficient bleeding in inflammatory caſes. The quantity even of four or five quarts, may be ſafely taken, at one time, from a large, robuſt, and plethoric horſe, ſhould the exigence of the caſe demand a very conſiderable evacuation. Upon ordinary occaſions, the portion is between one and two quarts, by meaſure; I repeat, by meaſure, becauſe notwithſtanding, ſcarce a veterinary writer ſince the days of Solleyſel, has failed to declaim againſt the beaſtly and dangerous practice of drawing off a horſe's blood at random, and by gueſs upon a dunghill, like water from a water-but, yet the ſame race of hard-headed idiots, into whoſe care

care we ſtill wiſely commit the health of our horſes, continue the enormity. The pulſe of a horſe in full health, and not under the influence of alarm, makes from thirty-ſix (Dr. Hale's ſtatement) to perhaps forty-five ſtrokes in a minute; a late writer on the ſtrangles, ſays a horſe with a pulſe as high as fifty, may be well, and free from fever; but I have reaſon either to ſuppoſe him in an error, as that the pulſe in horſes is an uncertain criterion. The ſtrokes may be felt by gently preſſing the temporal artery, or the ear, or the carotid arteries on each ſide the neck, or thoſe near the heart, or within the legs, and they have been found during the higheſt degree of inflammation, and great pain, to amount to one hundred and twenty in a minute.

The old writers, who were unacquainted with the circulation, and of courſe expected peculiar benefits from local bleedings, named thirty-one veins in the horſe's body, at which he might be bled; to wit, the two temple-veins; the eye-veins, beneath the eyes; the palate-veins, in the mouth; the neck-veins; the plate-veins, in the breaſt; the fore-arm-veins; the ſhackle-veins, before; the toe-veins before; the ſide, or flank-veins; the tail-vein; the haunch-veins; the hough-veins; the ſhackle-veins behind; and the toe-veins behind. But as from the inceſſant rotatory motion of the blood,

blood, bleeding cannot have a partial, but only the general effect of diminiſhing quantity, and of making more ſpace in the veſſels, it matters but little, from what vein blood be taken, any farther than that the neck veins are moſt convenient for the purpoſe, and therefore had always better be uſed.

It were to be wiſhed, that the old, rude, Patagonian method, of forcibly driving a ſharp inſtrument into the body of a horſe, with a club, or blood-ſtick, could be totally aboliſhed; but there certainly is ſome difficulty in the caſe, at leaſt with common operators. With veterinary ſurgeons in general, I believe the practice has ceaſed, but the uſe of the ſpring-fleam is, I underſtand, ſtill attended with inconvenience; and I have been told by a gentleman in the habit of bleeding horſes, that he can perform the operation eaſieſt and beſt, with a common ſmall lancet. I can readily believe ſuch to be the beſt method, after a little practice ſhall have made a ſteady and ſkilful hand. Every one acquainted with horſes, knows enough of the inconveniences and dangers of the ancient method; ſometimes a horſe is ſtruck ineffectually half a dozen times, ſlipping his head aſide at every ſtroke, until the ſeventh, when the buſineſs is done, too effectually, and the vein divided, an artery or perhaps a tendon wounded; ſhould the

operation

operation be upon the plate, or thigh-veins, ſuch an accident might be fatal. I chanced to be at the college awhile ago, where I ſaw a horſe, which had been treated in this manner by a blackſmith, and was ſent thither to be cured. The vein was divided, and a conſiderable wound made in the neck, which had juſt come to ſuppuration; the horſe, in the mean time, being affected in ſo ſingular a manner by the accident, as entirely to loſe his appetite, and the grooms were actually drenching him with gruel.

The moſt proper part of the neck to which to apply the lancet, is about a hand's breadth from the head, and one inch below the branching, or joining of the vein, which runs from the lower jaw, and which will appear full by preſſing the main branch; the integuments alſo are thinneſt thereabouts. In caſe, from the folly of frequent blood-letting, the neck of the horſe ſhould be covered with ſcars, it is then better to have recourſe elſewhere, and an operator ſhould accuſtom himſelf to bleed on either ſide indifferently. I have the authority of Mr. Clarke, for adviſing that a ligature be never made until (ſuppoſing the horſe upon his legs) the orifice be opened, and even then it will frequently be needleſs, and as the preſſure of the finger will in general occaſion the blood to flow ſufficiently free. I have ſeen

ligatures

ligatures made ſo exceſſive hard by ignorant ſmiths, that the patients have been nearly ſuffocated, and there are inſtances enough of horſes abſolutely falling down in an apoplectic fit, from the bandage being long continued upon ſuch, which from ill uſage were ſhy at the operation of bleeding. When a horſe's head may be tied up to the rack, pinning the orifice is ſeldom neceſſary, but if it muſt needs be pinned, care ought to be taken that the ſkin be not drawn too far from the vein, ſo as to admit the blood between the ſkin and fleſh, which frequently happens, producing ſuppuration, and a ſwelled neck: another precaution of equal conſequence with any of the foregoing, is, that in caſe of accident in bleeding the patient be immediately put into proper hands, if within the reach of ſuch, from a rational apprehenſion of the cures of ignorant bunglers, which, their tedioufneſs and danger out of queſtion, too often leave an indelible deſignation of the doctor upon the body of the horſe.

ALTERATIVE FORMS. The intent of alterants is gradually to remove chronic, or obſtructions of long ſtanding, which would not ſo readily give way to the briſk and tranſient effects of a purge; by thinning, purifying, and accelerating the motion of animal fluids. The chief conſiderations in the exhibition of this claſs

claſs of medicines, are, that the more powerful ſpecies be not reſorted to, unleſs the humours of the animal be in a corrupted or depraved ſtate, that the doſes be very moderate and continued a conſiderable time, and that the powders be reduced as fine as poſſible; to a pinch of ſnuff. Large doſes purge, and the medicine paſſes too quickly; their frequency debilitates the ſtomach, and depreſſes the ſpirits; if the powder be groſs, inſtead of entering the lacteals and paſſing thence into the blood, it is carried through the inteſtines unchanged. I have ſeen rhubarb ejected from the bowels of an infant, the ſecond or third day, in the ſame crude ſtate as when given.

No. 1. MILD ALTERATIVE. Flower of brimſtone, and cremor tartar, equal quantities; with theſe mix canella alba, a drachm of the latter to an ounce. The doſe, half an ounce to one ounce twice a day, either given in a ball with treacle, on an empty ſtomach (the moſt effectual way) or mixed with the corn, being firſt of all well ſtirred into a little wetted bran.

No. 2. Add gum guiacum, finely powdered, and turmeric, equal quantities with the above. Mix well. This ſucceeds well with delicate conſtitutions.

No. 3. Pound the fineſt antimony, that is, large, clear, and ſhining, like poliſhed ſteel, to

an impalpable powder, mix with equal quantity of powdered guiacum. Six drachms to one ounce *per* day.

No. 4. ANTIMONIAL ÆTHIOPS, four to ſix drachms every night, for a fortnight, then omit a week, afterwards repeat for another fortnight. It is made as follows: the beſt antimony as before, twelve ounces; crude Mercury ſixteen ounces; brimſtone eight ounces: grind them together to an impalpable powder. This medicine has great effect in farcy, inveterate mange, or obſtinate dry coughs.

CHAP. VIII.

ON CATARRH—EPEDEMIC COLD OR DISTEMPER — RHEUMATISM — GLANDERS — BROKEN WIND.

CATARRH is either local or univerſal in the body; and in its nature and effects, either cold and chilling, or hot and febrile: colds are ſometimes epidemic, or general, amongſt men and animals, from a malignant diſpoſition of the atmoſphere; this influenza amongſt horſes, and the varieties of the horſe, is vulgarly ſtyled the DISTEMPER; a catarrhal

hal diſcharge, or running at the noſe, of long ſtanding, is denominated the GLANDERS.

The occaſion of that accident, which is termed CATCHING COLD, ſeems to be an unſuitable, too ſudden, or too long continued expoſure of the body, or any part thereof, to the bracing influence of the external air, by which the emunctories, outlets, or pores of the ſkin, ſerving to eliminate the inviſible perſpiration, or ſteam, are aſtringed and cloſed, and the perſpirable matter repelled into the habit. A tranſlation of the obſtructed matter to Sneider's membrane, uſually happens ſooner or later, if that be not primarily affected; at leaſt the noſtrils are the common channel for the diſcharge of catarrh. Sneider, the cotemporary of Harvey, firſt deſcribed the pituitary membrane, or web, which lines the noſe, palate, and œſophagus, and is filled with ſmall glands, ſecreting a ſlimy liquor, whence, and not from the brain, proceeds the running at the noſe in a cold. In a local cold, ſome particular part of the body only, which may have been accidentally expoſed; is affected, and the tenſion, inflammation, and pain, are confined to that part: ſhould a portion of the morbid matter remain unabſorbed, or ſtrictures be brought upon the veſſels by repeated cold-ſtrokes, the diſeaſe, in proceſs of time, becomes chronic, and then aſſumes the appellation of RHEUMATISM.

The new medical ſchool has, it ſeems, rejected the ancient theory of the origin of catarrh, from obſtructed perſpiration. I can ſcarce comprehend the ſcope of Dr. Beddowe's intention, when he informs us, that he has repeatedly turned a horſe out by night, in the winter ſeaſon, from the warm ſtable into the fields, and taken him up again the next, or following day, without any perceptible change in his ſtate of body; nor withhold my wonder when he aſſerts, we want experiments of the effects of ſuch treatment; theſe, God knows, have ever been in ſuch plenty, from the indolence and ſtupidity of mankind, that the moſt diligent obſerver of ſymptoms need not be at a loſs. The doctor's horſe failing to catch cold, goes no farther in contravention of the general principle, than does the circumſtance of ſome perſons eſcaping the infection of the plague and ſmall-pox, in proving thoſe not to be contagious diſeaſes. I have been much more lucky at cold-catching than Dr. Beddowes, and have witneſſed a multitude of experiments with horſes ſimilar to his, which have been attended with all poſſible ſucceſs; producing defluxions from the eyes and noſe, inflamed and ſwelled glands, ſtaring coat, fever, and loſs of appetite. The common *methodus medendi*, adopted by the country people in this caſe, is " to let them run it off," and ſometimes it

it runs into the true glanders, an inſtance of which was related to me a ſhort time paſt.

Dr. Darwin, ſays "the uſes of the perſpirable "matter are to keep the ſkin ſoft and pliant, "&c.—yet has this cutaneous mucus been be- "lieved by many to be an excrement; and I "know not how many fanciful theories have "been built upon its ſuppoſed obſtruction. "Such as the origin of catarrhs, coughs, in- "flammations," &c. He obſerves farther, "that the ancient Grecians oiled themſelves "all over, that ſome nations have painted "themſelves all over, that the Hottentots ſmear "themſelves all over with greaſe, that many of "our own heads are at this day covered with "flour and fat, according to the tyranny of a "filthy and waſteful faſhion, without this in- "convenience, and that there is a ſtrict ana- "logy between the uſes of the perſpirable "matter and the mucuous fluids, which are "poured, for ſeveral purpoſes, upon all the "internal membranes of the body."

In anſwer to all this, it may be ſaid, that it is by no means material to the purpoſe, whether the perſpirable fluid be excrementitious or not, ſince it is evinced by the conſtant experience of the ſenſes, that under certain circumſtances, and in certain degrees, cold will have the invariable effect of cloſing the cuticular pores, and of obſtructing or preventing the

emiſſion of fluid, which obſtruction always produces morbid ſenſations in the body, and uſually a diſcharge from the noſtrils; and it is to be preſumed whenever the mucuous fluids are obſtructed internally (the bile for example) ſuch obſtruction produces analogous effects. That a fair analogy of the ſubject does not ſubſiſt with thoſe inſtances, which the doctor has adduced by way of illuſtration, ſince nobody pretends that oleous, warming, and conſequently relaxing applications, will have the effect of cloſing the pores, on the contrary it is rather to be expected that all ſuch, by their warmth or ſuppling quality, will have an effect directly oppoſite; and it will be found by experience, that to powder and dreſs the hair is a remedy of conſiderable efficacy in a freſh contracted cold. A lady of my acquaintance, juſt got up from her lying-in, imprudently expoſed her head by combing out all the tangles of her hair. She had ſcarce finiſhed before ſhe was ſeized with a tightneſs of the ſkin all over her head and throat, a ſharp ſenſe of cold in thoſe parts, and great pain; theſe ſymptoms were ſoon accompanied with conſiderable diſcharge at the noſe, and inflammation of the parotid glands. Fortunately, a doctor was at hand, in the perſon of the hair-dreſſer, who preſcribed (as he pretended from frequent experience) a large quantity of powder and pomatum, to be applied

applied inſtantly. This was accordingly executed, and the patient aſſured me ſhe felt the ſtricture taken off the ſkin, and the obſtruction immediately removed, by the comfortable warmth and relaxent effect enſuing the application.

I am as little diſpoſed to agree with Dr. Darwin in the ſentiment, that the uſe of powder and pomatum upon the head, is " a filthy and " waſteful faſhion." I entertain a totally contrary opinion, in favour of which I think I have ſufficient reaſons to urge, but they would be out of place here; I will only remark, that it appears to me, moſt of our popular writers have failed upon the ſubject of luxury, in the ſame manner, and for ſimilar reaſons, as upon the queſtion of monopoly.

Let not the Reader accuſe me of arrogance, in preſuming to queſtion ſo great and reſpectable profeſſional authorities as Darwin and Beddoes, ſince no man, or ſet of men are, or ever were infallible; ſince I follow other authorities equally great, and ſince the matter is fairly within the province of common ſenſe.

With regard to catching cold, horſes domeſticated, and men, are much upon an equality, that it is very eaſy to judge from ſympathy in what circumſtances, and upon what occaſions, the animals are liable. Some of the moſt common, and truly the moſt proper cauſes of ca-

tarrh are the following: New un-aired ſtables, change of ſtable from warm to cold, doors or windows ſuddenly thrown open, and continued ſo at unſeaſonable times, current of air improperly admitted, expoſure to the night air, being ſuffered to ſtand ſtill in the cold air immediately from a hot ſtable, or when in a ſtate of perſpiration; the unnatural practice of waſhing horſes in ſuch a ſtate, with cold water, at any ſeaſon, ſudden turning out to graſs from warm keeping, damp body cloths, or ſaddle pads.

It is to the intereſt of every proprietor, however poor, to be provided with ſome kind of covering to throw over his horſe's loins, on any ſudden tranſition from heat to cold; it muſt alſo be remembered, that a horſe which works and runs at graſs (in cold ſeaſons more particularly) ought never to be curried, which renders his body too ſuſceptible of impreſſion from the air; ſuch ſhould only be rubbed with wiſps. Should a horſe take cold at graſs, it is infinitely better to houſe him by night, in a ſtate of moderate warmth, and allow a few maſhes and warm water, from which treatment he will moſt probably be ready to brave the weather again, in a ſound and healthy ſtate, in the courſe of a few days, rather than ſuffer him to languiſh amidſt the damps of the ſoil, with a running at the noſe, which may continue for months. The uſual objection to this practice is, that it induces a tender

a tender habit, which argument is alſo much uſed againſt clothing horſes in colds; but I have always obſerved, that the animal body, under the influence of obſtructed perſpiration, is ſtill more liable to an acceſſion or increaſe of catarrh from that very account, and by no means ſo much ſo, after the diſeaſe has ſubſided, and the veſſels are leſs diſtended, which is an anſwer to the objection in both caſes.

Horſes which are expoſed to all weathers, but which have ſtill caught cold, and yet cannot be ſpared from their conſtant duty, ought, on the firſt appearance of the diſeaſe, to have clothing allowed during their labour, to loſe ſome blood, to have nitre in their water every night, and a cordial ball drink. This is the unfortunate deſcription of horſes which is deſtined to undergo all the dreadful evils of neglected and accumulated catarrh—cough, pleuriſy, aſthma, yellows, rheumatiſm, glanders, conſumption.

On the confirmed appearance of cold, lameneſs, wound, or indeed any malady of conſequence, the chances are infinitely in favour of withdrawing a horſe inſtantly, and putting him in the way of a ſpeedy cure. I can ſet down and calculate on this head, to my ſorrow, from experience.

I have too long known the vanity of reaſoning in oppoſition to prejudice, ſuppoſed intereſt, and

and preſent convenience, to hope even for a hearing againſt the practice of waſhing poſt-horſes, when in a high ſtate of perſpiration, with cold water. I ſhall be immediately ſtopped ſhort with the old argument of experience. Thus the ſtateſman, who upholds a fictitious and unnatural order of ſociety, by the help of the gibbet and the ſword, tells you with the utmoſt gravity, that although poſſibly, ſuch a ſyſtem may not be juſtifiable upon the principles of abſtract right and theoretic truth; yet that it is practically right and true, he is ready to prove from experience. But human experience is equivocal and fallacious, whilſt truth and principle never change. It is a truth, that all ſudden and violent extremes are againſt nature, and the univerſal reaſon of things, and therefore of improper uſe, and ultimate ill ſucceſs; but the few exceptions are laid hold of by preſent intereſt, or whim, and upon theſe is erected a deceitful experience. A man tells me, he has been in the conſtant habit for many years of waſhing his horſes with cold water, or even of plunging them into a river, when in the higheſt degree of heat from labour, and that ſuch practice has with him been ſucceſsful. I anſwer, he is much more liable to commit an error than nature. The animal body may be compelled by force to endure the moſt improper and ultimately injurious treatment; the horſe

horſe has not the power of deſcribing his pain, his ſignals of complaint and diſtreſs are anſwered by the whip; his increaſing maladies are unheeded, he is driven onward, until outraged and overburthened nature ſinks outright. No concluſions worthy of dependance can be drawn from a few apparently ſucceſsful inſtances, and it accords with general and rational experience, that the common and deſtructive maladies of poſt-horſes are known to ariſe from alternate extremes of heat and cold; and that colds with them do not always find a vent at the noſtrils, but their effects remain latent for a conſiderable time, in different parts of the body. It is an ill-judged ſpeculation to double the common riſks of hackney horſes for the ſake of ſupporting a lame hypotheſis, or of ſaving a little labour. Examples of the fatal effects of expoſing the animal body, whether human or brute, in this way, are innumerable. It is well known to coſt the lives of a vaſt number of Ruſſians annually, and to debilitate and gradually conſume moſt of thoſe who are addicted to it. At the famous ſtables of Chantilly, in the ariſtocratic times, ſome of the fineſt Engliſh horſes were annually ſacrificed by this cold immerſion; and it has been reported of the horſes which were killed in the flight of Louis to *Varennes*, that their death was rather occaſioned by improper treatment afterwards, than by

by the ſudden effects of faſt driving. I have reaſon to believe, that the ablution of new born infants in cold water, has cauſed the death of many. I know not in what degree this inſane practice may obtain, but that ſuch practice does exiſt, I have ſufficient information. A child of my own was killed by it, ſhewing the moſt evident indications of the cauſe of that obſtruction, which induced convulſions and death. A ſimilar accident happened in a French family in my neighbourhood, as I was lately informed by the nurſe: there is alſo a certain lady now living, who has been blind from the day of her birth, having loſt her ſight from the ſame treatment.

I had nearly forgotten to deſcribe a new method of cold-catching in the human animal, of which the public in general may not be aware. It is from the religious cold-bath. It was that aquatic ſect among us, who according to Butler,

> Dive like wild-fowl for ſalvation,
> And fiſh to catch regeneration,

who firſt made the valuable and important diſcovery, that John ought not to be called the baptiſt, but the dipper and the ſprinkler; accordingly, the doctors among them hold it proper to brace up the religious zeal of their patients, with a good catholic ſouſe of the naked body in cold water. Now, whether for want of

of faith, as the holy ones never fail to plead, in caſe of ill-hap, or from what other cauſe it may proceed, this cold-bathing the ſoul for its health, has ſometimes proved fatal to its partner the body. Not long ſince, a woman whom I perſonally knew, died from the ill conſequences of this religious freak. Inſtantly on her return home from John the dipper's ſoul-ſprinkling cold-bath, ſhe complained of an oppreſſion at her ſtomach and breaſt; ſhe became gradually conſumptive, and held out about a year and a half. I have ſince heard of a ſimilar accident, but the patient is in a convaleſcent ſtate.

The common ſymptoms of a cold in a horſe, in its firſt ſtage, are well known—cough, diſcharge of lymph, or water from the eyes and noſtrils, and occaſionally hanging down the head. If attended to at firſt, as it ever ought in this land of rheums, at any rate in cold ſeaſons, the diſeaſe will immediately ſubmit; a few days, or even a ſingle day's warm treatment in the ſtable, a little additional clothing, warm water and maſhes generally do the buſineſs; the veſſels being relieved from a ſuperfluous load, will contract, and the horſe will not be liable to relapſe, on expoſure to the air. Spirit, or ſalt of hartſhorn, in warm ale, ſweetened with ſyrup of poppies, given twice a day, is an excellent medicine on the firſt attack of cold catarrh; but great care ought to be had that the doſe of hartſhorn be not too large, leſt it excoriate the throat

throat of the horſe and choke him. Two or three table ſpoonfulls of the ſpirit may be given for a doſe, in a quart or three pints of beer: a proper judgment may be made by the taſte of the drench. Or freſh ground ginger, two to four drachms, is an excellent ſubſtitute for the hartſhorn.

Should the diſeaſe either from neglect, the common cauſe, or ſudden accident, be of a more confirmed and ſerious nature; ſhould there be a conſiderable diſcharge from the noſtrils, an inflammation of the glands under the jaws, attended with loſs of appetite; medical aid muſt be called in, or the buſineſs may be very tedious, beſides the riſk of leaving in the conſtitution, the ſeeds of certain of the moſt dangerous chronic diſeaſes.

In catarrh, the firſt and grand conſideration is, whether the patient be chilly or feveriſh, in the language of the ancients, whether the diſeaſe ariſe from a hot or a cold cauſe; a diſtinction which Bartlet has not made, who inveighed ſo much againſt the hot method of practice in colds: for theſe caſes require a directly oppoſite treatment; in the firſt, you can ſcarce load on too much clothing, or preſcribe medicines of too warm and volatile a nature, ſince it is your intent to create a temporary fever, in order to fuſe or diſſolve the coagulated lymph, and bring the diſeaſe to a criſis: but in the latter caſe, when the ſymptomatic

tomatic fever already exiſts, and perhaps in a conſiderable degree, ſuch practice would be very hazardous, and cooling diuretic medicines with veneſection are clearly indicated. I ſhall begin with the cure of this latter caſe, or cold attended with fever.

It is generally good practice to bleed at the commencement, which ought to be repeated in a few days, if fever and fullneſs of the veſſels indicate the neceſſity. Give the following, in one or two balls, twice or thrice a day, allowing plenty of warm gruel or white water, which ſhould be poured down with the horn, if the horſe refuſe it. Nitre and cremor tartar, of each one ounce; juniper berries freſh and good, powdered, one ounce; Spaniſh liquorice melted, half an ounce, or enough to ſweeten with; work them up with liquorice powder or flour. This medicine may be given in gruel or ale, if a drink be preferred, and an addition made to the quantities if required. In either of theſe methods, you are certain the horſe has his medicine; which is by no means the caſe when you truſt to infuſions in his water, or to ingredients thrown upon, or mixed with his maſhes, which are frequently rejected and loſt. Some horſes alſo with delicate ſtomachs will not touch a maſh, in which any medicine has been mixed. There is however great inconvenience, and even danger, in forcing any medicine down a horſe's

horſe's throat, when he is much troubled with a cough; and the utmoſt tenderneſs and precaution ought to be uſed. Obſerve that the cloths be not damp, or hard with dirt and ſweat; in regular ſtables, clean waſhed cloths ſhould be reſerved for theſe occaſions, or new made uſe of, well aired. Woollen cloth is a ſpecific for opening the pores; the ſtimulus of the points of wool, according to Dr. Darwin, acting upon the ſkin. Should the throat be much ſwelled and inflamed, it will be neceſſary to keep the hood on in the ſtable; and the glands may be bathed well two or three times in the day with camphorated ſpirits, or ſpirit of hartſhorn with a ſmall quantity of oil. All poſſible attention ſhould be paid to cleanlineſs, and ſtraw kept in the manger to receive the diſcharge from the horſe's noſe. No hay, or other food, ſhould be ſuffered to remain and become tainted with his breath. In caſe of damp weather, or cold ſearching wind, the horſe ought not to ſtir out of the ſtable; but if fine, he may be walked out an hour, in the middle of the day, well clothed, and with his hood. Dr. Bracken relates his ſucceſs in running a horſe a four mile ſweat, in order to bring the cold to a criſis, but I never tried it; and ſhould think it a hazardous experiment. The Doctor's preſcription for increaſing the diſcharge, when the horſe may be heavy headed,

from

from the matter being locked up, and not finding a free courſe, is, half an ounce of the dried leaves of the herb *aſara bacca*, white hellebore one drachm; powder fine, and keep it corked up. Blow a ſmall quantity of this ſnuff through a quill, up the noſtrils, two or three times a day. The univerſal concuſſion occaſioned by the act of ſneezing, has conſiderable effect in opening obſtructions, and is uſually ſucceeded by a favourable glow.

The above method I have always found ſucceſsful, in caſes of no higher conſequence than thoſe deſcribed; and the medicines recommended of equal efficacy with thoſe of greater expence, or conſiſting of more humorous articles. It is neceſſary to give a caution againſt impatience, and againſt the hazard of a relapſe from putting the horſe to work before the running at the noſe has ceaſed, and his appetite is re-eſtabliſhed; a part of the morbid matter being left in the veſſels may be tranſlated to ſome bowel, whence it may be impoſſible afterwards to diſlodge it. If the diſcharge has been conſiderable, the horſe muſt have ſwallowed much of it with his meat; on that account, and for the ſake of cleanſing the habit of any relic of the diſeaſe, give, a few days after he ſhall have recovered of the catarrh, an aloetic purge; or a mercurial one, if a groſſneſs and foulneſs of body ſhould require it.

The fever running high, with violent heaving of the flanks, indicating great commotion of the blood, rattling in the throat, with loud ſtrong cough; all cordial drenches, or balls compounded of hot ſeeds, ought to be avoided, as they occaſion a dangerous increaſe of the fever. Cooling, aperient, and diuretic drinks, ſimilar to thoſe already recommended, muſt be the dependance here; nor muſt the horſe be overburthened with clothes. The giving hot ſpicy drenches, in this caſe, is a uſual error of the farriers, who, judging in a right line, that cold and heat are oppoſites; and the horſe having a cold, think they cannot do better than to ply him with heat.

On the contrary, ſhould the horſe's blood ſeem chilled, with cold breath, cold extremities, and little diſcharge from the noſe; it will be neceſſary to allow plenty of clothing, and to exhibit warm cordial and ſtimulating medicines; perhaps in this caſe, bleeding may be omitted. The common cordial ball, I have generally found of equal efficacy with the other forms recommended; variety of which however will be found in this Chapter. Comfortable malt maſhes will be required. Should the cold have been contracted from the horſe being long expoſed to the weather, when heated with violent exerciſe, or from paſſing deep waters in that ſtate, and the limbs become ſwelled, ſtiff,

and

and inactive; an addition of two drachms of camphor to the cordial drink, will render it more penetrating. After this claſs of medicines ſhall have had a ſucceſsful operation, the cure may be completed with cooling diuretics as above, or they may be uſed alternately according to ſymptoms. It behoves me to ſtate, that I have frequently ſeen errors committed on both ſides the queſtion: in cold catarrh, by the too early exhibition of ſaline and refrigerating medicines, merely from the affectation of a new and more refined method of practice, by which the diſeaſe has been prolonged, and the patient (human or brute) needleſsly kept in a weak and aguiſh ſtate many days. I have more than once made the blunder myſelf.

The ſymptomatic cough generally ceaſes with the original diſeaſe, indeed always, in caſe of a perfect cure; but ſhould the cough be very frequent and troubleſome, from violent irritation of the humours about the root of the tongue, and along the windpipe; the following lubricating drink will be of uſe, and may be given a pint or two at a time, blood-warm, at diſcretion.

The PECTORAL INFUSION to eaſe the cough. Raiſins ſtoned, half a pound; liquorice root, ſplit, or bruiſed, three ounces; white horehound, three ounces; linſeed, two ounces; nitre, two ounces; infuſe in four or five quarts

boiling water, and let the whole ſtand covered up two or three hours, ſtrain off, without preſſing, for uſe.

It is evident that balls, in this caſe, can be of very ſmall topical uſe, but that a drink has a more laſting contact with, and acts more powerfully upon the ſeat of the complaint; the above is free from the old objection of being too oily and clogging, and I can recommend it from experience. Lemon juice, or ſolution of cremor tartar, may be added, if thought neceſſary. This infuſion, proportionally reduced in quantity, is a moſt excellent remedy for hoarſeneſs in human patients.

To allay the tickling cough in horſes, and heal inward ſoreneſs, Solution of gum Arabic, or tragacanth, with honey are uſed: alſo infuſion of linſeed, tar, oxymel of ſquills, &c.

Catarrh is of proportionate ſtrength to the degree of cold taken, and its aſtrictive force upon the cuticular abſorbents. Thus ſometimes ſo violent a ſhock, or cold-ſtroke is received, as to cauſe a ſpaſmodic contraction of the muſcles, in the parts immediately affected, the ſpaſm by ſympathy extending to various other parts. I can beſt illuſtrate this, by the deſcription of a caſe from my memorandums, which came under my notice in September 1794. A large black cart gelding, of an irritable and choleric habit, being too much expoſed

expoſed to the wet and cold, particularly the night air, in a hard job of ſcavenger's work, was ſeized very ſuddenly with illneſs, on being taken out of the ſhafts. His jaw became fixed, his tail ſet out, and his hinder legs extended very wide. He had a univerſal rigour and ſhivering; with a conſiderable motion in his flanks. It ſoon appeared that the cramp or contraction extended from his jaws, along the vertebræ of the neck and back, and alſo along the muſcles of the belly on each ſide from his elbow to his ſheath, which were conſiderably enlarged. He recovered the uſe of his jaws, I believe the next day, probably from the mere warmth of the ſtable. The eighth day all the remaining ſymptoms continued, with frequent attempts to ſtale, the urine coming in drops, with much pain, the kidneys and bladder having been primarily affected, or ſince by tranſlation. An intermittent pulſe, never high. Much ſlaver from the jaws, the paſſages of the head being intirely obſtructed. Staring coat, tolerable appetite, neither coſtive nor otherwiſe. The horſe was fit to go to work again, in about eight weeks; he was under the care of a farrier, and the bill, I was informed, amounted to about fifty ſhillings. I converſed much with the doctor, but his diſcourſe was ſo wild, that I could not poſſibly diſcover from it any certain rule of judging or preſcribing in

the caſe, but he aſſured me generally, that he had made cures in many ſimilar caſes, although his ſkill was as nothing to that of his father, who could cure all diſeaſes whatever, either of cows, horſes, or chriſtians. With very vague ideas of the nature and cauſe of the diſeaſe, this man treated the horſe in ſome reſpects judiciouſly enough, according to that random intuitive kind of practice, by which all theſe empyrics are diſtinguiſhed. He rowelled the horſe and bliſtered his flanks, to which I think the cure is to be attributed, for according to the beſt obſervation I could make, and to enquiries of the horſe-keeper, the internal medicines exhibited, had very ſmall effect, unleſs perhaps in retarding the cure.

Sometimes it was reported in the ſtable, that the horſe was about to have the farcy, at others, that his diſorder had ariſen from a ſtrain in the loins; but all agreed that many horſes had been loſt, or fallen into incurable complaints, in a ſimilar caſe. My own opinion at the inſtant was, that in the firſt place, the horſe would have been infinitely more ſafe in the hands of a ſkilful ſurgeon, and alſo that the cure might ſo have been performed in much leſs time, and with leſs injury to the condition of the animal. This hint I hope will not be thrown away.

About two years previous, I had perſonal experience

experience of this kind of malady. At a certain Inn at Hounſlow, they put me into damp ſheets. In about an hour, I awaked from a moſt frightful dream, in which was repreſented to my troubled imagination, á ſcene like the fabled hell of poets, and poetical writers. I found myſelf in a burning fever, and inſtantly gueſſing the cauſe, I jumped out of bed, tore away the ſheets, and then wound myſelf up, head and all, ſo completely in the blankets, as to leave only a ſmall aperture to breathe from. In that comfortable ſituation, I did not forget the landlady and her maids, to whom I moſt piouſly wiſhed a real eſtate, in juſt ſuch a country as I had lately viewed in imagination. For ſeveral weeks I had a conſtant chilline ſs upon me, and an extreme ſuſceptibility of freſh cold: then a tumour in the arm-pit, with a contraction of the muſcles of the breaſt and arm, the ſinews being corded to the elbow. Tried mercurial unction, which induced inflammation without any benefit, an effect I have often obſerved. New flannel, and camphorated ſpirits, made a cure in about three weeks, and I thought myſelf extremely fortunate to eſcape ſo cheaply.

As to the curative intentions of this acute rheumatiſm in the horſe, they conſiſt firſt, in embrocating the parts affected, proper preſcriptions for which will be found amongſt the

following forms, in bleeding if the ſtate of the body will permit, in giving warm and ſtimulating medicines, with nitrous and acidulated drinks, and in rowels and topical bliſters. Where ſuch convenience can be had, the warm bath for twenty minutes, ſhould precede every other means, the horſe being rubbed bone dry, and well-clothed; this may be repeated once or twice a day; it muſt be a ſovereign remedy in all colds, but requires much beyond ordinary care. Even a warm bath for the legs, as high as poſſible; the fore legs firſt, than the hinder, whilſt the fore ones are rubbing dry, the water being kept conſtantly in a good ſteaming heat, without annoying the horſe, will have great effect. The water may be medicated, with decoctions of herbs of a ſoftening and relaxing nature.

THE EPIDEMIC COLD, OR INFLUENZA,

Ariſing from atmoſpheric contagion, is too well known, both in its cauſe, and diagnoſtic ſymptoms, to need a very particular deſcription. It is generally ſuppoſed infectious, or communicable from one horſe to another, and although I entertain ſome doubts on that head, I ſhould certainly recommend to ſeparate the infected horſes from thoſe as yet untouched by the diſeaſe. The general treatment already deſcribed, muſt be perſevered in, but with ſtill greater

greater attention to warmth about the head and throat, and to cleanlineſs in reſpect to the diſcharge, which may be very copious. Care muſt be taken, in caſe of ſyringing the noſtrils, that the membrane be not abraded with ſharp and ſtimulating injections, that may induce purulent ulcerations, of worſe conſequence than the original diſeaſe. Should the fever be conſiderable, with little or no diſcharge from the noſe, or retention of urine, and nature ſeem much oppreſſed, and unable to throw off the load at any outlet, antimonials and powerful diaphoretics are indicated. When the diſeaſe has taken this turn, the fever will ſometimes run ſo high, that the fleſh of the horſe will feel burning hot, and he will refuſe all ſuſtenance, nor attempt to lie down until a critical diſcharge ſhall happen ſomewhere: this criſis may come in the form of hot watery eruptions or blyſters, in tumours under the elbow or hock, or collections of water along the belly, near the inguinal glands, which the farriers, who ſhake up cauſe and effect, diſeaſe and ſymptoms, in the bag together, denominate the water farcy. Nature having proceeded thus far in her work, nothing remains for the practitioner but to aſſiſt her gently with cooling diuretics, and as occaſion may require, relaxent glyſters.

VARIOUS FORMS.

No. 1. INFUSION FOR A FRESH COLD AND COUGH, FROM GIBSON. Take hyſſop, colts-foot, penny-royal, and horehound, of each a handful; ſix cloves of freſh garlic, peeled and cut ſmall, linſeed, and freſh aniſeed powdered, each one ounce; liquorice half an ounce; ſaffron one drachm; infuſe in two quarts boiling water cloſe covered; warm a quart of this infuſion, and diſſolve in it four ounces honey, to be given faſting, letting the horſe ſtand two hours before he has meat or water. Scabious, rocket, agrimony, and the carminative ſeeds aniſe, cummin, coriander, fennel, &c. are uſed in this intention.

No. 2. A COMMON INFUSION OR COOLING DRINK. Take groundſel, ground-ivy, rue, roſemary, mallows, balm, ſage, parſley, or as many of them, or of ſimilar qualities, as are at hand, of each a double handful, corn poppies one handful, boil in five quarts of ſoft water to three—ſtrain and ſweeten with honey or treacle.

No. 3. The CORDIAL POWDER. Aniſeeds, elicampane, liquorice, bay-berries, grains of paradiſe, juniper-berries, ſtone-brimſtone, equal quantities all finely powdered. Mix well, and keep cloſe corked for uſe. The doſe from one to three ounces, in warm ale ſweetened with honey,

honey, or balls made with honey or treacle. This medicine is of great uſe, when a horſe is firſt ſeized with a ſhivering fit, refuſing his food, and breaking out in clammy cold ſweats; it may be repeated ſeveral times, at ſix or eight hours interval. Or, cummin-ſeeds, half a pound; bay-berries, and Jamaica pepper, each four ounces; myrrh, two ounces; cloves, one ounce; powder fine and mix, ſtop cloſe. Said to have ſucceeded often in caſes of cold water being drank, when the horſe was in a ſtate of perſpiration.

No. 4. The Pectoral Ball from Bracken. Take half a pound of No. 3, or of the common cordial ball, two ounces freſh hog-lice or millipedes; one ounce milk ſulphur; half an ounce of cold ſpecies of gum tragacanth; balſam of Tolu in fine powder, one ounce; ches turpentine half an ounce; ſyrup of balſam enough to form the balls. Give half an ounce to three quarters twice a day, before going out to exerciſe. This ball is much recommended by the doctor, and is well calculated for a horſe which has contracted a freſh cold and cough, but is ſufficiently in ſpirits and vigour, to be able to work it off in his exerciſe. It is very proper for a horſe in training. Or, A good deterſive or cleanſing ball may be made, by adding to any form of cordial ball, ſquills, Barbadoes tar, and Caſtile ſoap,

ſoap, each about a quarter of the quantity of the cordial mixture.

No. 5. LINIMENT FOR SPASMS, OR CONTRACTIONS FROM COLD. Mix gooſe greaſe, or any penetrating oil, with ſpirits doubly camphorated, rub thoroughly the muſcles affected three times a day, a quarter of an hour each time. Oil of turpentine would be moſt proper, but unleſs previouſly boiled, it will fetch off the hair. OR, Nerve ointment and oil of bays, of each two ounces; camphor rubbed fine one ounce; rectified oil of amber three ounces. Mix.

No. 6. PERSPIRATIVE POWDER, FROM BARTLET. Purified opium, Ipecacuhan root, and liquorice, in powder, one ounce each; nitre and tartar of vitriol, of each four ounces. Mix well and ſtop cloſe. Join from three to four drachms of this powder, with a drachm of camphor, and give it in a ball made up with treacle, night and morning, clothing very carefully.

No. 7. OR, Nitre and ſtone-brimſtone half an ounce each; camphor one drachm; tartar emetic one drachm. Ball with treacle.

No. 8. The ANTIMONIAL BEER. Glaſs of antimony finely powdered eight ounces, ſtrong beer one gallon, infuſe in a ſtone bottle a fortnight, ſhaking well every day. Give one pint of

of this in a little warm ale and treacle, twice a day as long as needful. It has a moſt powerful effect upon the whole vaſcular ſyſtem, promoting all the animal ſecretions, and ſhould be kept ready for uſe. Or, for a haſty occaſion, two ounces antimonial wine, in a drink, ſtrong beer, or ale, ſweetened with treacle, twice or thrice a day. For other antimonial medicines, proper in colds attended with much fever, *ſee Fever*.

RHEUMATISM

Has been already defined a chronic local cold. Its ſeat is among the integuments of the muſcles, and according to Dr. Darwin, it conſiſts of inſpiſſated mucus left upon their *faſcia*, paining them when they move, and rub againſt it, like any extraneous material. It is probable, the *ſciatica*, or hip-gout in horſes, is merely a rheumatiſm, at leaſt there is no danger in confounding them, ſince their cure will be the ſame. Dr. Bracken ſays, the rheumatiſm is properly a diſorder of the ſtrong and robuſt, by which, I ſuppoſe, he meant, that the vigorous muſcular contractions of ſuch, are moſt retentive of the morbid humour; but as ſimilar effects ſometimes happen from oppoſite cauſes, the diſeaſe may remain fixed in a weak habit, from deficient irritability, and inſufficient energy

gy in the fibrous actions to caſt it off. In truth, I have ſeen chronic rheumatiſm ſufficiently often in lax habits. As to the curative intentions, every one will be aware of the neceſſary diſcrimination; bold meaſures may ſucceed with the former; with the conſtitutions of the latter claſs, the practitioner will not allow himſelf to make ſo free.

The grand difficulty lies in aſcertaining the diſeaſe, which is ſometimes vagous in different parts of the body; the ſhoulders are often affected; but that confirmed ſpecies particularly deſigned here, is uſually ſeated in and about the hip-joint and membranes adjacent. The horſe goes lame, from no viſible cauſe, but from a long continuance of the diſeaſe a waſting of the parts may enſue. The ſight and touch muſt determine the caſe, diſtinguiſhing it from lameneſs in the foot, the tendon, the hock or ſtifle, or from the pains occaſioned by initient ſpavins, or curbs. Could certainty be produced, no method would be attended with ſo probable a chance of a radical cure, as the actual cautery; holes being bored with a ſmall iron, very deep into the muſcular parts near the *nervus ſciaticus*, and the iſſues cloſe covered, or bliſtered, left to diſcharge a conſiderable time. Bracken, who was equally a bold and judicious practitioner, recommends this to human

man patients, and records the cure of an inveterate ſciatica by this method, upon a jolly hoſteſs of Yorkſhire.

The cure. Bleed. Rub the parts affected with ſpirits well camphorated, and oil, or ox-gall mixed, twice a day, keeping on if poſſible a thick woolly bandage, well ſoaked in the mixture. A mercurial purge. A week after, the antimonial beer, to be continued three weeks or longer, the horſe kept conſtantly well clothed, with walking exerciſe twice a day, the weather permitting. Warm bath, with much friction of the parts, afterwards ſwimming in a river occaſionally.

But the only cure to be depended upon, in my opinion, is a month's run at ſalt marſhes in the Spring, and being continued abroad in ſome ſhady place till Autumn; afterwards mercurial phyſic, and the beſt ſtable care.

EMBROCATION from Bracken. Nerve ointment, and ſoldiers ointment, two ounces; camphor, two drachms; oil of turpentine, and oil of Peter, each three drachms; ſpirits of ſal ammoniac, two drachms. Mix well and keep in a pot ſtopped cloſe with a bladder. Shave off the hair, lather with ſoap, and when dry, anoint twice a day.

TURPENTINE DRINK, from the ſame. Take ætherial oil of turpentine *from Apothecaries Hall*, half an ounce; three yolks of eggs, three ounces

ounces treacle, mix. Give this cold in half a pint of white wine, and repeat it every third day for three turns. Cover with thick blankets. Moderate walking exercise.

Balls of guiacum, powdered, half an ounce; cinnaber of antimony, one ounce, mixed with cordial ball, half a pound, and worked up with syrup of the fine opening roots, are also recommended. Blistering the part will sometimes succeed. Æther, both externally and internally. Do not the inhabitants of Bath and Buxton extend the use of their warm baths to their rheumatic horses?

GLANDERS.

This disease in horses, and the venereal disease in the human race, bear much about the same date in medical annals; that they originated at so late a period as that usually assigned, appears to me totally irrational to suppose, and in direct opposition to the general œconomy of nature. It is to suppose the ancients and their horses exempt from uncleanness and obstruction, and their consequences; to assert that they had neither syphilis nor glanders among them. Nature has ever been intrinsically the same, but obscured or neglected, variously described, or misunderstood, at different periods.

The glanders, so fatal to horses, was called by the

the Italians, *ciamorro*, and is deſcribed very correctly as to its ſymptoms, and its origin by the old veterinary writers, both Italian, French, and Engliſh. Blundevil, and after him Markham, give the following ſhort deſcription of its riſe, progreſs, and completion: "Of cold, firſt "cometh the poſe (that is ſtoppage in the head) "and the cough; then the glanders, and laſt of "all, the mourning of the chine." Of the nature of the diſeaſe they had yet very confuſed and erroneous notions; of courſe their attempts at cure were irrational, and little to the purpoſe. But they by no means deſerve the ridicule which has been caſt upon them, for the term *mort-de-chine*, or as Blundevil engliſhed it, mourning of the chine; ſince they did but what is very common with our modern farriers, denominate a diſeaſe from one of its prominent ſymptoms. That the waſting of the chine is an almoſt invariable ſymptom of chronic glanders, I have had frequent occaſion to obſerve; and in the laſt of two attempts to cure the diſeaſe, my patient, a ſix year old mare, had a real *tabes dorſales*, as far as that term is ſuppoſed to intend a conſumption, and weakneſs of the loins.

Snape was the firſt of the old veterinary writers who really underſtood this diſeaſe, and probably it will not be too much to aſſert, that he has given as juſt and philoſophic, although

conciſe, an account of it, as the moſt celebrated of our modern writers; of which any profeſſional man may ſatisfy himſelf, by turning to Gibſon's Firſt Treatiſe, in one volume, where Snape is quoted, ſince the work of the latter being ſcarce, may not be eaſily obtained.

Bracken was undoubtedly in an error to aſſert, that the glanders was not infectious; the Doctor had ſurely not inveſtigated the nature of contagion, with his accuſtomed patience and acumen; but his obſervations on the diſeaſe, in his own Treatiſe, and his notes on *La Foſſe*, whoſe memoir on the glanders he tranſlated, will be found of great conſequence to thoſe who deſire information on the ſubject.

The *Sieur La Foſſe*, farrier to the French king, about the year 1749 made various experiments upon glandered horſes, but his chief merit was the invention of the method of trepanning them, in order to throw injections immediately upon the ulcerated parts; a diſcovery of importance, particularly ſince it proved in every inſtance to be unattended with the leaſt harm, or even blemiſh to the horſe. Edward Snape, formerly farrier to the preſent king, followed *La Foſſe* in this practice, as I have been informed. I embrace this occaſion of making the old Doctor amends for erroneouſly killing him with a word, in my Firſt Volume, by bringing him again to life in the preſent;

preſent; he not only lives, but is at the inſtant employed in writing a Treatiſe on Farriery, from the practice of half a century: I ſhall be happy to find that it equals in ability, the very able, although conciſe one, of his anceſtor.

The laſt practical writer on this ſubject, is St. Bel, in whoſe work many curious obſervations will be found: theſe remarks are intended for the uſe of ſuch profeſſional gentlemen as may be deſirous of conſulting the beſt authorities, with as little trouble as may be. With reſpect to the poſſeſſors of glandered horſes, who may wiſh to make experiment of the poſſibility of cure; they ought to be aſſured, that it is a caſe which demands the ſkill of the moſt able veterinary phyſicians and ſurgeons, and that no ſatisfaction can poſſibly be derived from the random attempts of ignorant pretenders.

The following anatomical facts, or opinions, I have extracted from Bracken, on *La Foſſe*, and from St. Bel.

La Foſſe.—"There is no communication between the brain and the noſe in the horſe." This was by way of anſwer to thoſe who held the glanders to be a defluxion from the brain. But his commentator controverts this poſition of *La Foſſe*, who is ſuppoſed to mean no more by it, than that the brain is parted from the upper part of the noſe by bones, and that therefore there is no danger in performing the operation

of the trepan; there is a communication through the holes of the bone, called *ethmoides*, or *cribiforme*, from its reſemblance to a ſieve. "In proportion as the ſublingual glands, which are two in number, ſituate one on each ſide between the lower jaw, are ſwelled more (that is obſtructed) the noſe would run more; if one only were ſwelled, then the noſtril on the ſame ſide only would run." "The ſeat of the glanders is in the *membrana pituitaria*, or lining of the noſtrils; beſt method of cure by injection." "Nineteen out of twenty glandered horſes which were killed, had their viſcera ſound, or very little diſtempered." "When the diſcharge is inclinable to a browniſh hue, with blood, &c. the covering of the capillary veſſels (in the lining of the noſtrils) is abraded and worn off by the ſharpneſs of the humour, and blood makes its eſcape at the extremities of the ramifications or branchings of the veins and arteries." "The ſublingual glands, or glands under the tongue, in horſes, do not diſcharge from their canals into the mouth, as in man, but on the contrary, turn backwards, and paſs behind the holes of the noſtrils; theſe glands are anterior to the maxillary glands, which latter ſupply the mouth with all the ſaliva; for this reaſon, in the glanders, we find obſtruction and tumefaction of the former, whilſt the latter glands remain ſound." "From the appearance of health,

health, the durableneſs of ſome glandered horſes, the good and laudable ſtate of the viſcera, the ſwelling and ulcers of the pituitary membrane, and the cornets, (or thin cartilaginous ſubſtances in ſhape of horns, in each noſtril) and the matter which fills the ſinuſes; we may reaſonably conclude, the glanders is a local and inflammatory diſeaſe, and that the ſeat of it is in the pituitary membrane." "A horſe for eighteen months, diſcharged a thick white humour in abundance from his noſtrils. At reſt in the ſtable the running ceaſed, and was exchanged for a rattling noiſe in his breathing, which noiſe ceaſed in turn, on the horſe being worked, when the running again ſucceeded: whence inferred the horſe not glandered. Being killed, the pituitary membrane was found perfectly ſound, and all the interior parts of the noſe in a good ſtate, without any unnatural contents in the ſinuſes. The lower viſcera ſound, but a large abſceſs at the entry of the lungs, in the place where the *trachea arteria*, or windpipe, divides itſelf into branches." "Horſes cannot cough up corruption from the lungs by the mouth, as mankind do; therefore ſuch matter runs off by the noſtrils. If one noſtril only run, we may be pretty ſure the diſeaſe is not in the lungs, but the head; becauſe the matter that comes up the windpipe from the lungs has an equal chance of entering

both noſtrils." "A horſe may live, and do buſineſs a long time, with an abſceſs in the lungs, before the matter, which paſſes up the windpipe, is capable of corrupting the membranes. The rattling noiſe in the noſtrils, occaſioned by the tumid ſtate of the glands, and the prodigious quantity of matter which flows off, diſtinguiſh the preſent diſtemper from the glanders."

St. Bel.—The glanders, an obſtruction or eroſion of the lymphatic ducts and fluids, in animals which do not cleave the hoof, a diſeaſe hitherto incurable.

"Young horſes moſt liable to the diſeaſe, fat horſes more than lean ones, thoſe at reſt more than working ones, leaſt of all, thoſe running abroad.

"The peculiar ſymptoms of the diſeaſe are, that the virus in moſt caſes does not produce any ſenſible alteration in the animal œconomy; the horſe has no fever, dullneſs, or diſtate to food, but the animal functions are all regular. The obſtruction of the lymphatic glands. The hardneſs and inſenſibility of the glands, in this diſeaſe, juſtifies the ſuppoſition, that the virus contains ſome noxious and active effluvia which condenſe the humours.

"When the diſcharge is only from one noſtril, the gland on that ſide alone is obſtructed. If on compreſſing the glands (or kernels) between the

the fingers, an elaſtic repulſion is felt from the centre of the gland, and the animal ſhews ſenſibility of pain, the diſeaſe is not the glanders, becauſe in that caſe the glands are hard and quite inſenſible." St. Bel ought to have made the exception, that a portion of ſenſibility might remain in the glands with the incipient glanders.

I ſhall now give my own ſentiments, reſpecting this diſeaſe, which, during the courſe of about ſeventeen years, I have ſeen in all the various ſhapes and ſymptoms deſcribed by authors, without being altogether an incurious obſerver. Within the period I have had three or four glandered horſes in my poſſeſſion, two of which I purchaſed, chiefly in order to make experiment. The firſt was a cart-horſe, and upon what grounds I have now forgotten, I gave him oak-bark powdered in his corn, for near two months, and a conſiderable quantity of crude mercury; ſome attention was paid to cleanſing his noſtrils, and he was kept to conſtant work. The diſcharge abated by degrees, and at the end of about ſix months was ſcarce viſible; but although improved, he was ſtill very faint, and troubled with a conſumptive cough. I ſold him, and, about two years afterwards, ſaw him again offered for ſale, much in the ſame condition. I bought a mare of Doctor Snape, which he ſuppoſed he had cured of the glanders, caught from being improperly treated in

the ſtrangles. She had not the ſmalleſt diſcharge, but was always in a weak and feeble ſtate, and died tabid and waſted away, at graſs, in about a twelvemonth. In 1788 I took a well-ſhaped mare, very valuable could ſhe have been made ſound, which was affected with what Markham would have ſtyled "a "high running glanders." In fact, ſhe diſcharged from both noſtrils a copious gleet of the very worſt colour and ſcent, the kernels under her jaws were hard and inſenſible, her hair came off with the ſlighteſt pull, ſhe had the real hectic purulent fever, accompanied with the ſymptomatic "mourning of the "chine," or the uſual tabid appearance, more particularly in the loin. Her eyes were watery and gummy, ſometimes her legs ſwelled, ſubject to faint ſweats on the leaſt exerciſe, appetite moderate, dung of a looſe rotten appearance, coat fine, and laid well; I continued her ſtrictly in the courſe recommended by Bracken, ſeven weeks, with alternate amendment and relapſe, towards the latter part of the time, with ſome ſmall apparent improvement; but my man getting weary of ſo diſguſting an attendance, and foreſeeing that a cure muſt be at any rate very diſtant, I ſent her to Smithfield and ſold her. I muſt remark here, that relying on the ſingular opinion of Bracken, I took no precautions whatever with theſe glandered

dered horſes, except in feeding them at ſome diſtance from the ſound ones. The cart-horſe ſtood in the ſame ſtable with five or ſix others, and yet nothing like infection, or any kind of ill conſequence followed, and I have known many ſimilar inſtances.

Much incertitude and variety has ariſen in the definition of the true glanders. The doctrine of thoſe ſkilful noſologiſts, the farriers, is as follows; ſhould a horſe die with a diſcharge from his noſtrils, and they have no other diſeaſe to lay to his charge, they ſay, he died glandered: but ſhould he have the moſt fetid running, with all the other acknowledged ſymptoms of the diſeaſe, and yet recover, they pronounce he was not glandered. It is no doubt a ſafe mode of delivering an opinion. Some of the old writers, give you a receipt "to bring away the glanders," as if the horſe had ſwallowed a peck of nuts, and you wiſhed him to void them. The oſtentatious La Foſſe, as fond of ſplitting hairs, and of ſublimating diſeaſes into a uſeleſs variety, as our countryman Taylor of empiric notoriety, who divided the diſeaſes of the eye into two hundred and forty-five; deſcribes very accurately from the varying colour of the diſcharge, half a dozen different ſpecies of glanders; he might as well have croſs examined the dejections, in order to eſtabliſh from the various hue, conſiſtence, and ſcent,

ſcent, as many different kinds of *diarrhœa*. I ſubmit to the profeſſion, " whether every diſ-
" charge from the noſtrils of horſe, aſs, or
" mule, fœtid, and from its acrimony capable
" of eroſion, ought not to be called glanders?"
It would ſave much uſeleſs diſquiſition.

The GLANDERS, or CONTAGIOUS CATARRH, is either chronic, as being the effect of inveterate and accumulated catarrh, or acute, as ariſing immediately from epidemic contagion, or infection from one animal to another; the ſeat of the diſeaſe is in the ſublingual glands, which are tumefied and obſtructed, in the pituitary membrane, or in the lungs. That the diſeaſe is local according to the notion of *La Foſſe*, is ſo far true, that the diſcharge always proceeds either from the pituitary membrane, or the lungs, but that the whole maſs of fluids muſt be tainted by the glanderous virus in a confirmed caſe, I think needs no proof; we are not to wonder at the unwillingneſs of that author, to accede to ſuch a poſition, he had his ſyſtem of locality to ſupport; the vanity of making every conſideration give place to a favourite hypotheſis, is not confined to the *Sieur La Foſſe*.

Obſtruction and ſtagnation, whether in the air, or animal fluids, I take to be the ſource of *mephitis*, or contagious virus; circulation, motion, and currency its cure. Stagnation is the nidus

nidus (ſo to ſpeak) where are hatched thoſe *miſaſmata*, which penetrate, infect, and engender their like, in ſenſible bodies. Strong pungent fætor, is a diſtinctive characteriſtic of malignancy, and the power of infection. When the diſcharge from the noſtrils is very fœtid, it is a proof that much matter is accumulated, and lodged in the *ſinûs*, or cavities of the ſkull, that the pituitary membrane is ulcerated, and that the diſeaſe will put on its moſt malignant form. If the running be whitiſh, of moderate conſiſtence, and but little ſmell, rather copious, and from both noſtrils, it in general, I believe, indicates an ulcer in the lungs, that no lodgments of matter are yet formed in the cavities of the ſkull, and that the membrane is not corroded. I have ſeen horſes in this ſtate, fat upon the rib, and capable of conſiderable labour, although dull and ſad; but the peculiar leading ſymptoms of glanders were in full force upon them, to wit, the tumefaction of the kernels, and the rottenneſs of the hair; the diſcharge alſo continued conſtant with no abatement from time. I have my doubts whether this milder ſpecies be at all infectious, and am in want of information why a ſuperior degree of malignancy exiſts in the other, unleſs it be entirely attributable to the circumſtance of the diſcharge in that caſe ſuffering greater impediment.

As

As to a CURE FOR THE GLANDERS, the eaſieſt, cheapeſt, and that which never fails in the moſt deſperate caſes, after every other remedy has failed, is—the COLLAR-MAKERS KNIFE—In nine caſes out of ten, that is perhaps eligible; but the caſe of a valuable or favourite horſe, or that of mere curioſity, and a laudable attempt at improvement, may juſtify an experiment. There is a natural alliance between ignorance and cruelty; and the old farriers had a moſt cruel pretended cure for this diſeaſe; according to Blundevil, "they "twined out the pith of the horſe's back, with "a long wire thruſt up into his head, and ſo "into his neck and back." It has long ſeemed probable to me, that there is great analogy between glanders and ſyphilis, and that brute patients under the former diſeaſe confirmed, ought to be treated like men in a venereal hectic. Mercurial and antimonial alterants, agglutinants, gums, woods, turpentines, opium, reſtoratives, particularly bark. What would be the effect of the famous noſtrum of Paracelſus, opium joined with mercury? Or a courſe of ſublimate continued for a time, the favourite medicine of Boyle, Boerhaave, and Darwin? What of the gaſes (if that could be afforded) of electricity in repeated percuſſions through the head and breaſt? In moſt attempts at cure that I have ſeen or heard of, the ulcers have been

been deterged and healed, but temporarily, the gleet recurring after awhile; which I think evidently proved that the virus had pervaded the maſs of humours, and that internal medicines had not been enough attended to. Gibſon records two very ſatisfactory inſtances of cure, and in Bartlet may be found a very rational method both of cure and prevention, which laſt is no doubt the chief object; in this author, the uſe of the trepan is explained with plates.

Dr. Darwin ſeems to refer this diſeaſe intirely to contagion, without being aware, that according to all experience, the horſes which become glandered from contagion, either of the air, or of other horſes, are few indeed to thoſe which contract it from common colds neglected, and hard keeping. In caſe of the epidemic, the doctor recommends once bleeding, and a mild purgative of aloes and hard ſoap; on the appearance of ſymptoms of debility, with cold extremities and ſloughs in the membrane; half an ounce of tincture of opium in a pint of ale, every ſix hours. Turning ſuch out to graſs with the gleet upon them, I have never known to ſucceed.

In general, thoſe who have attempted the cure of this veterinary opprobrium, have made a too violent uſe of medicines of one claſs, have

have totally neglected thoſe of another, perhaps the moſt material, and have expected ſucceſs at too early a period. As to the external application, La Fosse ſhould be punctually followed, and the mercurials and antimonials given in moderate doſes, and long continued, with the woods, gums, &c. On the proſpect of the glanderous virus being ſubdued, a pretty long courſe of corroborants, among which equal quantities of oak-bark, and the yellow Peruvian bark, with ſteel, are moſt to be depended on, ſhould conclude the medical part. A long run at graſs afterwards, and if the patient be a mare, the horſe.

A Chalybeate Beer, may be made as follows: Steel filings, ſixteen ounces; cinnamon and mace, each two ounces; gentian-root bruiſed, four ounces; aniſeeds bruiſed, three ounces. Infuſe in one gallon fine, clear, old, ſtrong beer for a month, ſtopped cloſe, ſhaking often, then ſtrain. Give half a pint for a doſe, in a pint of cold water, once or twice a day, upon an empty ſtomach, leaving the horſe an hour or two to his repoſe. I have taken this from the *Vinum Chalybeatum* of Boerhaave, ſubſtituting old beer, which I have reaſon to believe a good menſtruum for the ſteel, inſtead of Rheniſh wine; and adding one of the beſt bitters. Should cinnamon and mace be thought too

too expenſive, Jamaica pepper, or allſpice, would be a cheap and proper ſubſtitute. It was the opinion of that great man, that no drug, diet, or regimen, could equal the preparations of iron, for promoting that power in the animal body by which blood is made; of courſe, it muſt be a powerful ſpecific, in all caſes of over relaxed ſolids, debilitation and conſumption. Would not chalybeate beer be a cheap and efficacious medicine for the poor?

PURSIVENESS, ASTHMA, AND BROKEN WIND.

On theſe kindred diſeaſes, or different ſtages of the ſame diſeaſe, I have made a few remarks in the former part of this work, page 197. In addition to the ſigns of confirmed broken wind, I have frequently obſerved a palpitation at the cheſt, and a conſiderable cavity there, with conſtant contraction and dilatation; but as I have ſaid, if the horſe be cauſed to move quick, the defect cannot poſſibly be concealed. That which conſtitutes what is called a *Roarer*, is a defect in the *trachea*, or wind-pipe, it being of irregular form, or inſufficient dimenſions to admit a free paſſage for the air. Roarers will ſometimes go with their noſes pointed ſtraight forward, and elevated.

Whoever deſires to enter into a very minute inveſtigation

inveſtigation of the nature and cauſes of aſthmatic diſeaſes in horſes, had better conſult Gibſon, from whom moſt other writers on the ſubject have borrowed, and in general without having the honeſty to acknowledge it; of this no one ſtands forth as a more eminent example, than the modeſt Mr. Foſter, whoſe whole book of fifty years practice, is a tolerably accurate tranſcript of Gibſon. The chief of what I have to ſay upon the matter is, that all diſeaſes, of this claſs (I mean chronic obſtructions in the lungs) are abſolutely incurable, and that the whole *rationale* of acting in the caſe conſiſts in prevention and palliation.

Broken-wind is no doubt an appropriate malady of the domeſtic ſtate, ſince in the natural, it is unknown. I know not whether aſſes be ſubject to it; I ſuppoſe from their ſuperior hardineſs to horſes, in conſequence of leſs delicate treatment, they are not ſo open to the impreſſion of cold.

Dr. Lower attributed the broken wind of a horſe to a relaxation, or rupture of the phrenic nerves, which cauſe the motions of the diaphragm. A friend of Bartlet, ſuppoſed the diſeaſe to proceed from a morbid or obſtructed ſtate of the glands, and membranes of the head and throat, the enlargement of which prevented a free paſſage to the wind. According to Oſmer,

Oſmer, "certain glands (called the lymphatics) "which are placed upon the air-pipe, at its "entrance into the lungs, are become en- "larged, and thereby the diameter of the "tube is leſſened; hence the received air "cannot ſo readily make its eſcape, nor reſpi- "ration be performed with ſuch facility as "before; from which quantity of contained "air, the lobes of the lungs are always enlarg- "ed, as may be ſeen by examining the dead "carcaſes of broken-winded horſes." But I think I can beſt explain the matter in the words of Dr. Darwin; ſpeaking of humoural aſthma, he attributes it to "a congeſtion of "lymph, in the air-cells of the lungs, from de- "fective abſorption."

In my ideas, a redundance of lymph being thrown upon the lungs, the quantity becomes too great for the capacity of the abſorbent veſſels, hence it ſtagnates and chokes up the air conduits, and the theatre of its action being more confined, of courſe reſpiration muſt be more difficult and laborious. The diſeaſe will thus be always in proportion to the obſtruction in the air-cells.

The moſt general cauſe of broken wind, lies in alternate expoſure to inordinate heat and cold. Nothing will enſure the diſeaſe ſo completely to the ſatisfaction of any experimenter, as that philoſophic practice already

celebrated, of waſhing with cold water, horſes under the ardent fever of laborious exertion. Moſt horſes in public ſervice, and many from improper ſtable management, have their wind affected in ſome degree, the malady increaſing with their years. Repeated ſignals from the ſtern-chace, denote much internal diſtreſs from hard ſervice, and it is no good prognoſtic on the ſtate of the horſe's lungs, how ſound ſoever he may cough, when like that of Hudibras,

" He anſwers from behind
" With brandiſh'd tail and blaſt of wind."

I have often conſidered the idea of Gibſon, in reſpect to the too large ſize of the contained viſcera, in proportion to the cheſt, and the difficulty thence of expanſion to the lungs, as a cauſe of thick-windedneſs in horſes, and am very far from thinking contemptuouſly of it. Eclipſe, I have heard, was a thick-winded, hard breathing horſe, and always made great noiſe in his exerciſe; on diſſection, his heart and lungs appeared of a remarkable large ſize, and the caſe was preciſely the ſame with a purſive hackney which I knew many years: but in all the different ſtages of this diſorder, the general treatment muſt be ſimilar, differing only in degree. Be it remembered, that purſive horſes demand a punctilious regularity in phyſic and exerciſe.

The

The diſeaſe may probably have ariſen from want of timely evacuation, ſo that occaſional phyſic and bleeding ſhould not be neglected. Mercurial phyſic is indicated, being powerfully deobſtruent, perhaps the ſaline courſe, from its diuretic effects, may be peculiarly uſeful in this caſe. A late writer on the aſthma, ſeems to place the whole dependance for a cure, in the almoſt total abſtinence from liquids. It would be madneſs to glut a broken-winded horſe with water, but I never ſaw ſuch take the ſmalleſt harm from a moderate proportion of it, frequently given; and perhaps the only reaſon why they are particularly greedy of drink is, becauſe it is a received notion, that they ought to be kept without it. Give as little hay as poſſible, and that of the hardeſt and beſt kind, on the ground, or in a baſket; maſhes, and an extra quantity of corn. Carrots are ſpecific in the caſe. If the patient be even but a middling cart-horſe, it will pay to keep him to this regimen, inſtead of the common garbage diet. A conſtant run in upland paſture, where the bite is not too large, ſuits theſe horſes beſt; but if once allowed this, there ſeems a neceſſity for it ever after, for if taken intirely into the ſtable again, their malady becomes intolerable. It is well known, although not always remembered, that aſthmatic horſes ſhould be put to their ſpeed by

degrees, and that they are incapable of any violent extremes. Out of reſpect to the druggiſts, I ſhall ſet down a few preſcriptions.

The following is Bracken's ſuccedaneum for Gibſon's too expenſive balls, and even this is expenſive enough of conſcience, in proportion to the good it is like to operate, although perhaps it would be difficult to contrive a better form. It muſt be remembered, that medicines intended to open obſtructions in the lungs, have the whole tour of the circulation to make, and that they have not the power, as the farrier's ſuppoſe, immediately to enter the doors of the diſeaſe, and eject the tenant.

Recipe. Half a pound cordial ball, if it be too dry add half a pint fine Florence oil; balſam of Peru, two drachms; aniſated balſam of ſulphur, three drachms; flowers of benjamin, two drachms and half; make the maſs with burdock ſeeds in fine powder. Give a ball the ſize of a pigeon's egg, when going out to exerciſe. If burdock ſeeds cannot be obtained, I ſuppoſe liquorice powder may be ſubſtituted; but it may be worth while in a regular ſtable to make a reſerve of that ſeed, of which more hereafter.

OR. One pound cordial ball; powdered ſquills, and Barbadoes tar, two ounces each; make up the maſs with honey.

OR. Antimony in the fineſt powder, eight ounces;

ounces; brimſtone powdered, four ounces; gum ammoniacum, pounded garlic, and hard ſope, each four ounces; Venice turpentine, three ounces; aniſeeds, bay berries, and linſeed, in powder, two ounces each; make the paſte with honey, and oxymel of ſquills. Give a ball daily for a month; omit a month, and then repeat, having a ſtrict care as to regimen. This is my favourite form, but I do not promiſe it ſhall cure a broken wind; I will engage however that it will mitigate the ſymptoms of that diſeaſe, and render the horſe more uſeful: it is alſo an excellent preventive when the danger is apprehended. Soften the ammoniacum by pouring a little vinegar upon it, letting it ſtand twelve hours; pick out any ſmall ſtones or foulneſs, and pound it by itſelf; peel the garlic, add, and pound it with the gum.

Or. A courſe of tar-water, about four times the ſtrength of the common; a quart or two given in the horſe's drink.

The vitriol of copper, joined with emetic tartar, has formerly ſucceeded in a few inſtances of inveterate aſthma, when every other known remedy had failed.

The caſe of pulmonary abſceſs in horſes muſt ſurely be hopeleſs, as well from the common reaſon of the difficulty of effecting union of divided parts, where inceſſant motion takes place, as the conſideration, that the conſtant

labour expected from the horſes ſtill enhances the difficulty. If any remedy, it muſt be pure air in upland paſture; the patient to have no diſturbance for at leaſt twelve months. There are ſome few inſtances of a mare breeding, although evidently aſthmatic, and with a diſcharge from the noſtrils. La Foſſe relates that a horſe, in the worſt ſtage of the glanders, covered a mare; and it is probable a glandered mare would breed.

CHAP. IX.

ON FEVER—PLEURISY—PERIPNEUMONY—SUPERFICIAL OR EXTERNAL PLEURISY—INFLAMMATION OF DIAPHRAGM—ANTICOR—YELLOWS—STRANGLES.

SIMPLE or idiopathic fever, is a preternatural acceleration of the blood's motion, and conſequent heat; the compound ſpecies, or the aſſociated and ſymtomatic, is the effect of ſome morbid material thrown upon the circulation, which acts with a virulence exactly commenſurate with its proper qualities, and the exiſting ſtate of the bodily humours. Fever is moſt generally experienced to be ſymptomatic, and is indeed

indeed aſſociated with a vaſt variety of diſeaſes: in putrid fever, the fever is the effect, not the cauſe of contagion. Fever is almoſt invariably combined with catarrh; and ſuch is the analogy between them in their cauſes, effects, and cure, that they might not very improperly be eſteemed ſynonymous, with the diſtinction of hot and cold catarrh. In a retropulſion of that fine fluid or exhalation, the perſpirable matter, which even thoſe who have corrected Sanctorius, make ſo conſiderable in quantity; if the load be thrown upon the pituitary membrane, and be evacuated by the uſual catarrhal diſcharge, the diſeaſe is called a cold; but if the obſtructed matter remain fixed upon any bowel, it may aſſume the denomination and guiſe of fever, or perhaps of ſome other diſeaſe.

That the Ancients held this analogy will appear from the following example: "Manaſſes, "the huſband of Judith, as he was diligent over "them that bound ſheaves in the fields, the heat "came upon his head and he died." Judith, Chap. viii. St. Bernard ſays, that the cauſe of this man's death was an immoderate running of rheum out of his head to the inner parts, which rheum or humour was diſſolved by the burning heat. Conſtantius ſays ſuch a diſeaſe ariſes indifferently from a *hot* or a *cold* cauſe, *caloris ſeu frigoris ictre;* and in the former caſe, adviſes a fomentation of roſes infuſed in cold rain

water, roſe-buds being held to the noſtrils, alſo cold infuſion of the twigs and leaves of willows; in the latter, laudanum, thus, ſtorax and caſtorium. Hence I ſuppoſe came the notion of a decoction of willow being uſeful in the glanders. An Engliſh writer, who lived in the reign of Edward VI. calls the diſeaſe of Manaſſes a poze.

The following extract on the theory of fever is from Dr. Darwin—" Simple fevers are of two " kinds; firſt, the febris irritativa, or fever with " ſtrong pulſe; which conſiſts of a previous " torpor of the heart, arteries, and capillaries, " and a ſucceeding orgaſm of thoſe veſſels. " Secondly, the febris inirritativa, or fever with " weak pulſe, which conſiſts of a previous tor- " por of the heart, arteries, and capillaries; " and of a ſucceeding orgaſm of the capillaries, " the torpor of the heart and arteries conti- " nuing. But as the frequency of the pulſe " occurs, both in the ſtate of torpor, and in that " of orgaſm of the heart and arteries; this con- " ſtitutes a criterion to diſtinguiſh fever from " other diſeaſes, which are owing to the torpor " of ſome parts of the ſyſtem, as pareſis and " hemicrania.

" COMPOUND FEVER. When other parts " of the ſyſtem ſympathize with this torpor and " orgaſm of the cutaneous capillaries, and of " the heart and arteries; the fever fit becomes " more

" more complicated and dangerous; and this " in proportion to the number and conſe- " quence of ſuch affected parts." Zoonom. Vol. II. p. 541.

The ſymptoms of fever in horſes, analogous to thoſe in our own ſpecies, are either mild, intermittant, inflammatory, or hectic and malignant; and there is an equal analogy in the claſs of medicines indicated, and the method of cure. Horſes, from the nature of their ſervices, and the ſeverities they undergo, muſt neceſſarily be much expoſed to febrile diſorders, ſome of the moſt common cauſes of which are, exceſs of exertion, particularly in the hot ſeaſon; plethora, or ſuperabundance of blood, from high feeding and little exerciſe; in general, any obſtructed humour thrown upon the circulation; the inſpiration of malignant air.

I muſt once more refer thoſe who deſire much practical information upon this diſeaſe in horſes to Gibſon, who, if he has not treated it with ſcientific and logical preciſion, has done that which is of infinitely greater uſe; he has deſcribed the various ſymptoms from his own obſervation, and given a very rational method of cure from his own practice: from him chiefly have all our minor authors derived their pathology and preſcriptions in the different ſpecies of fever, which they have haſhed and ſerved up again, in that which each ſuppoſed to be the moſt

moſt plauſible form. Bracken is lame and imperfect on fever, obviouſly from haſte and inattention; but his looſe remarks deſerve to be read over.

Bartlet is the mere echo of Gibſon; but that indefatigable diligence, which is Bartlet's honourable characteriſtic, is ever at work to pick and cull from all quarters, whatever he judges may be uſeful to his readers: I allude to his *Pharmacopœia Hippiatrica.* Oſmer, as I have before obſerved, muſt be conſulted in Epidemics, and the veterinary practitioner, even if experienced, will not regret the ſmall labour of having peruſed Dr. Layard.

In the fevers of horſes which ſeldom retreat by critical ſweats, no additional clothing ſhould be uſed in the ſtable, nor the head covered, unleſs for the particular purpoſe of encouraging a critical diſcharge from the noſtrils. The ſtable ſhould not be kept in a ſtifling heat, and the horſe ought to be walked out daily, if circumſtances will permit; but abroad, I think, he ought to wear his hood. Gibſon allowed cold water in fevers, and almoſt all other authors have implicitly followed him; but I am convinced I have ſeen inflammatory caſes, in which ſuch practice would be attended with extreme, probably inſtant danger. Water blood warm, or white water, that is, ſuch as has had a little bran, or oatmeal boiled in it, muſt ſurely be preferable;

preferable; but if cold water muſt needs be allowed, let it be previouſly boiled. I have ſomewhere read an account of the ablution of a human patient in typhus, or nervous fever, with cold water and vinegar; cold water I have alſo heard has been tried upon a horſe in the ſame diſeaſe, but with no fortunate effect, the animal dying ſoon after.

Thoſe hot aromatic drenches of the common farriers, with which they do ſo much miſchief in fevers, have been already cenſured; another caution is neceſſary againſt the common groundleſs apprehenſion of horſes ſtarving themſelves, by their abſtinence during ſickneſs; this is by no means peculiar to grooms, our good old nurſes, who when we are debilitated, "cram us "till our guts do ache," with that delectably light, nutritious ſubſtance, calve's-foot jelly, coming in for their full ſhare of the merit. Let it be remembered, that in general the appetite ought to be the only director in this caſe; and that nothing can be more prepoſterous than to force ſolid aliment upon a ſtomach moſt probably already overladen with morbid matter, which mixing with the new acceſſion, will either remain an inert indigeſted ſtercoraceous maſs, or going through the common proceſs of digeſtion, ſend an impure and vitiated chyle into the blood, to add new force and virulence to the diſeaſe. Should the horſe have faſted a conſiderable

conſiderable time, and no indication appear of returning appetite, his ſtrength will be beſt ſupported by nutritious glyſters, which may be exhibited ſeveral times in the day. Locks of the beſt and ſweeteſt hay ſhould be offered him, as the practical Gibſon well obſerves, by hand, a method by which moſt horſes will be tempted to feed, particularly if the food be tendered by a favourite. At any rate, ſolid corn is highly improper in fevers, unleſs in very ſmall quantities, and ground, as an addition to the maſh, and even that is moſt befitting the decline of the diſeaſe or convaleſcent ſtate: the common diet muſt be hay, ſcalded bran, or pollard, warm freſh grains.

On the re-eſtabliſhment of health, after any acute diſeaſe, it will be found of material conſequence to guard againſt the too ſudden return of appetite in the horſe; the inordinate indulgence of which may induce ſurfeit, indigeſtion, and the diſagreeable concomitants of an acceſſion of crude and unconcocted humours. Bring him gradually to his accuſtomed rations of ſolid meat. To counteract the ill effects of any morbid relics in the conſtitution, a doſe or two of purging phyſic, or a ſhort alterative courſe may be expedient; the choice in which muſt be left, in all caſes, to the judgment of the practitioner, who is referred to the Chapter on Purgatives. On the contrary, ſhould the patient

patient be left by the diſeaſe in a weak and impoveriſhed ſtate, the craſis of his blood broken, his pulſe languid, and his appetite ſmall, ſhewing in his whole appearance what the old farriers called "leanneſs and miſlike;" recourſe muſt be had to a light and nouriſhing diet, with the daily aſſiſtance of a cordial ball. In this caſe, boiled meat has very ſudden happy effects. Boiled barley, or other corn. Turnips and oatmeal boiled, ſome of the liquor being infuſed in the drink. Boiled rice and potatoes. Baked potatoes. Raw carrots and lucern. Mild rhubarb purge. Moderate walking exerciſe on dry ground, as I have ſeen relapſe, and very diſagreeable effects, enſue on the expoſure of the feet and legs to wet, in caſe of recent recovery from fever. Graſs.

The common ſymptoms of fever in the horſe are extraordinary heat and dryneſs of the ſkin, jaws and tongue, ſtrong breath, pulſe quicker than natural, or intermittent, inflamed eyes, heaving at the flanks, and impeded reſpiration, ears and the lower extremities hot, reſtleſſneſs and fickle appetite, either to meat or drink, ſometimes avidity of drink, frequent caſting out of dung-balls, and difficulty of ſtalling, high coloured turbid urine. Theſe ſigns at their commencement may indicate nothing more than mild, ſimple fever, but if neglected in the common way, from want of obſervation, or in the

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plea of neceſſity, the diſeaſe either becomes inflammatory and of inſtant danger, or degenerates into that ſpecies of fever which uſually terminates in yellows or jaundice.

Simple fever, taken in time, ordinarily ſubmits, in three days, to a courſe of medicine and treatment nearly ſimilar to that recommended in a ſlight caſe of warm catarrh. Bleed agreeable to diſcretion as to quantity, give a drink of nitre, cremor tartar and honey, from one to two ounces of the two former, each a like quantity, in three pints of a warm decoction, or infuſion of any, or as many of the febrifugal herbs as can be readily obtained, twice a day; plying the horſe in the interim with as much of ſuch infuſion as he will take in his water, or if neceſſary, drenching him with it. The chief of theſe herbs are, ſcordium, or water germandes, pennyroyal, balm, ſage, ſweet fennel, camomile, agrimony, pellatory, ſorrel, mallows, and dandelion, the whole plant with the roots; which laſt ſtands recommended by Boyle as a febrifuge. The efficacy of theſe herbs, in this caſe, is by no means equivocal or contemptible; but if none can be conveniently obtained, give the medicine in gruel.

If inflammatory ſymptoms ſupervene, with violent pulſation, and throbbing in the arteries, ſo as even to be viſible, bleed according to the directions in the Chapter on Bleeding, and continue

tinue the uſe of the lancet at intervals, whilſt the inflammation continues. Give the above medicine in an increaſed doſe. Suppoſe, one ounce and half of nitre, and half an ounce cremor tartar, to two ounces and half nitre, and one ounce cremor tartar; according to the ſize and ſtrength of the horſe, every four hours. Back-rake, and give firſt a common glyſter; if the coſtiveneſs continue, with difficulty of ſtaling, give a purgative and diuretic glyſter, for which, ſee the Chapter on Purgation.

The following neutral mixture, from Bartlet, may alſo be made trial of, two or three times a day, a pint each time. Ruſſia pearl-aſhes, one ounce; diſtilled vinegar, one pint; ſpring water, two pints; honey, four ounces. Or. At one period each day, ſubſtitute for the nitre drink, the following: Infuſion or decoction of rue and chamomile, rather ſtrong, three pints; antimonial wine, one ounce; camphor and caſtor, each one drachm; contrayerva fine powder, half an ounce. Waſh the horſe's mouth and throat with white water. It is with horſes which are high fed, and have been neglected as to exerciſe and evacuations, and in conſequence full of rich and ſpirituous blood, that the diſeaſe attains this ardent and inflammatory ſtate; being neglected, it terminates fatally in a very ſhort period; but the early application of the method juſt recommended, ſeldom fails of ſucceſs,

ceſs, becauſe patients ſubject to this exalted ſpecies of fever are generally ſound in body, and have good ſtamina.

Solleyſel notices a fever, which he calls a PALPITATION OF THE HEART; the diagnoſtics, violent heaving of the flanks, and laborious reſpiration. He adviſes one remedy, which I think no man in his wits will adopt; namely, to let the horſe blood in the neck-vein, and then keep him an hour ſtanding up to the neck in water. I have two or three times ſeen horſes ſeized with this palpitation, which continues ſeveral days. It is ſometimes the forerunner of a broken wind, or in a broken-winded horſe, the ſign of exacerbation of the diſeaſe, and approach to its worſt ſtage. Bleedings. Neutral ſalts, with infuſions of the herbs as before. Tar water.

There is a low, inirritative fever, attended with great debility, with which horſes are often ſeized very ſuddenly. I have paid particular attention to this caſe, in ſeveral inſtances, without being able to form the leaſt probable gueſs as to the immediate cauſe of the diſeaſe: in July laſt I ſaw ſeveral horſes afflicted with it. They ſuddenly, whilſt at work, loſt their appetite, and their fleſh ſo faſt, that in three days they looked like dog-horſes. The hollowneſs of the flanks very remarkable, intermittent pulſe, no diſcharge at the noſtrils, nor much alteration

alteration as to the other diſcharges; but they were ſomewhat leſs in quantity, hidebound. Theſe horſes were recovered by the farrier, and the chief means ſeemed to be rowels, four or five of which were cut in the belly of one of the horſes; I ſuppoſe the fever powder, and the uſual alexipharmics with bliſters or rowels, are proper here: I ſhould either not bleed at all, or only a pint or two. Some years back, I had a horſe in this ſtate ſeveral months, and the country farrier called the diſeaſe a WILD-FIRE; a run at graſs cured it.

Fever may ariſe from eating unwholeſome food, or the conſtant uſe of foul water. Mouldy and rotten hay and garbage, muſty corn or bran, ſoft beans, or too many even of the beſt beans; all have a tendency to produce an impure and feveriſh blood.

CONTAGIOUS FEVER is either mild or peſtilential, according to the degree of virulence in the exhalation inſpired. In the firſt caſe, it is extremely probable that the animals affected have all received the contagion from one common ſource, the air; and not from infection one of the other, the contagious material not being ſufficiently ſtrong for that end. In peſtilential and putrid fever, ulcers, abſceſſes, or buboes, are formed, where freſh matter is generated, capable of reproducing infection. Dr. Darwin ſuppoſes, "that the matter of all con-

" tagious diſeaſes, whether with or without " fever, is not infectious, till it has acquired " ſomething from the air, which by oxygenat- " ing the ſecreted matter, may probably produce " a new acid." Perhaps all it acquires is, emiſſion for the miaſmata, and liberty of action, ſince the moſt noxious vapour confined is perfectly impotent.

In EPIDEMIC, or MALIGNANT FEVER, the pulſe is ſeldom or never very high, as perhaps the bare impetus of the blood, in an inflammatory ſtate, would itſelf reſiſt the tendency to putrefaction, at leaſt for a time. The diagnoſtics are, ſlow fever, with languor and great depreſſion, irregularity of pulſe, with alternation of heat and cold. Eyes dull and moiſt, with moiſture and foulneſs in the mouth, faint appetite, with feeble motion of the jaws, accompanied with an unpleaſant grating of the teeth. Excrement frequently dropping in a looſe and rotten ſtate. Staling irregular, ſometimes very little and with difficulty; at others, the urine pours down ſuddenly in large quantities, pale, without ſediment. Watchfulneſs and continual ſtanding. Sometimes a diſcharge of a brownish diſagreeable colour iſſues from the noſtrils, but in ſmall quantity. I have copied theſe ſymptoms generally from Gibſon, but I can anſwer for his correctneſs in almoſt every particular, from my own repeated obſervation.

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The cure uſually commences with bleeding, but it ought to be in a moderate quantity; and in this caſe does not always require repetition. Should the hide of the horſe feel much clung together, and bound, inſert a rowel or two. Glyſters as before, according to the neceſſity, that the body may be kept properly open. Give the following ball twice a day, and at convenient intervals, a few pints of the infuſion of herbs, acidulated with cremor tartar. Diaphoretic antimony, four drachms; camphor, one drachm; myrrh and Virginian ſnake-root, powdered, each two drachms; make the ball with ſyrup of ſaffron. In caſe of hoarſeneſs, rattling in the throat, or cough, more blood may be drawn. Watch the diſcharge from the noſtrils which may be critical, and encourage it with warm clothing upon the head and throat. It may be obſerved that the diaphoretic antimony is pretty nearly the ſame thing with Dr. James's famous powder, and I have ſeldom known the above ball and treatment to fail, even in caſes of much apparent danger; but for the farther ſatisfaction of the Reader, I will inſert certain other forms in the ſame intent. Diaphoretic antimony being a uſeful fever powder and alterative for cattle, I have given the receipt for thoſe who chuſe to prepare it themſelves, and alſo a preparation of ſimilar intent, much recommended by Oſmer; the efficacy

and ſudden good effect of which I once ſaw, in a horſe ſeized with a kind of influenza ſome years ago.

DIAPHORETIC ANTIMONY. Mix powdered antimony with three times its weight of nitre, and gradually put the maſs into a crucible juſt beginning to glow; then, the mixture being taken from the fire, let it be purified by waſhing with water, as well from the ſalts, as from the groſſer parts leſs perfectly calcined.

OSMER'S POWDER. Take two parts nitre, and one of antimony, firſt rubbed together, and deflagrate them over a fire in a crucible, by putting in a little at a time. One or two ounces of this may be given, once or twice a day.

TOUNEFORT'S FEVER POWDER. Hartſhorn ſhavings half a pound, boil in ſpring water full an hour; then place them in a diſh before the fire, till dry enough to powder. Mix them with an equal quantity of antimony, both in powder; put the mixture in an unglazed earthen pan over a ſlow fire, and keep it ſtirring with an iron ſpatula to prevent its caking together; when it ceaſes to ſmoke, the proceſs is finiſhed, and there will remain an aſh-coloured powder. If deſired more white, calcine awhile in a red-hot crucible. Doſe from one to two drachms, in a ball with honey and liquorice powder, twice a day, waſhed down with a horn

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or two of decoction of ſcordium, or the infuſion of herbs, or gruel, as before. Nitre in about double the quantity of the antimony, may be deflagrated in the crucible with it and the hartſhorn; and if to the powder there be added calcined mercury, in the proportion of a ſcruple of the mercury to two drachms, a moſt potent medicine will be produced. Keep it cloſe ſtopped up in glaſs.

FEVER DRINK FROM BARTLET Contrayerva and ſnake-root, two ounces each; liquorice-root, ſliced, one ounce; ſaffron, two drachms; infuſe in two quarts boiling water, cloſe covered, two hours; ſtrain off, and add half a pint diſtilled vinegar; four ounces ſpirit of wine, in which half an ounce camphor has been diſſolved, and two ounces Venice treacle; doſe, one pint, every four, ſix, or eight hours. In caſe of cough and ſoreneſs of the breaſt, give frequently three ounces cold drawn linſeed oil, ſame quantity honey; one ounce ſalt or cream of tartar in an infuſion of rue and chamomile.

In the worſt ſpecies of PUTRID OR PESTILENTIAL FEVER in horſes, the diagnoſtics are as follow: Dimneſs, with a glazed and lifeleſs appearance in the eyes, and a diſcharge from them; running at both the noſe and mouth of a brown or greeniſh colour, and fœted ſmell, which ſticks to the noſtrils; no appetite, particularly to drink; putrid breath; exceſſive debility

bility, ſo as to ſtagger when led; trembling; uneven pulſe; generally low; ſkin ſometimes hot, then ſuddenly cold; ſwelled glands; tumours to be felt under the ſkin in various parts; ſwelled joints; diarrhæa, or ſcouring of offenſive matter dark in colour, of the diſcharge of which the horſe ſeems ſcarce ſenſible.

As to the prognoſtics, putrefaction ſometimes proceeds ſo rapidly, owing perhaps to a previous depraved ſtate of the humours, that medicine ſeems to take no ſenſible effect, and death happens in a day or two; this I have ſeveral times ſeen. Horſes of the beſt conſtitution, I believe, very rarely recover from theſe dangerous fevers, by the mere ſtrength of nature; but if left to themſelves, or what is much the ſame, confided to ignorant hands, they either ſoon fall, or the diſeaſe vents itſelf in glanders, farcy, or ſurfeit, of which they never afterwards get thoroughly cured, from the corrupted ſtate of their blood. I do not find that the putrid fevers of horſes have their critical days, or thoſe ſtated times of critical height, aſſigned to epidemics by Dr. Mead; but that matter certainly merits the inveſtigation of our veterinary practitioners. The favourable ſymptoms are, an increaſe of more laudable and better coloured diſcharge from the noſtrils, eruption, or approach to ſuppuration in the tumours, increaſe and conſtancy of natural warmth, returning

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ſenſibility and briſkneſs: but if the contrary, and eſpecially if the diſcharge from the noſtrils turn black and ſanious, little hope is to be entertained.

The medicines indicated in this caſe, according to Gibſon, are, the warmeſt cadiac, diaphoretic, and volatile, with bark. Sal ammoniac, ſalt of amber, ſalt of hartſhorn, and aſſafœtida. For cheapneſs ſake, the ſubſtitutes, camphor, and oil of amber: caſtor, gentian, zedoary, gallengals, white dittany, biſtort, ſnake-root, diaſcordium, mithridate. The ſweet ſpirit of nitre is much recommended to be given frequently, in malignant fever, by a late writer.

The intention of cure, is plainly to ſupport nature by proper medicines, and to enable her to caſt off the morbific matter, by ſuch channels as ſhe herſelf ſhall point out, or to remedy her defect in that particular, by a number of artificial drains. In the emergency of the caſe, and when a ſudden putrid ſtagnation of the juices is to be apprehended, the moſt powerful antiſeptics muſt be immediately exhibited; but this involves a difficulty, which I muſt leave to the able medical practitioner; it ſometimes happens that although the bark, and medicines of that claſs be imperiouſly demanded, the contra indications from a load of foul and acrid matter, which renders the ſtomach totally unfit for the reception of aſtringents,

are equally preſſing, and it is impracticable to relieve a horſe by vomit, and attended with extreme danger in malignant or indeed any violent fever, to attempt cleanſing the *primæ viæ* by cathartics: of this laſt I had ample proof ſome years ago, for I killed two large cart-horſes in the ſame day, in this caſe, by purging them; as certainly, and almoſt as expeditiouſly, as if I had given them a proper doſe of arſenic. Again, the cordial and corroborative medicines ſometimes given, have ſuddenly induced ſo violent a paroxyſm of fever, as to deſtroy the patient in a ſhort time; or on the other hand, the too early and injudicious uſe of the ſalts, and bleeding, have often retarded, or totally prevented the criſis: bringing on a ſcouring, re-abſorption of the putrid matter, and death, or a lingering conſumptive ſtate, not eaſily, perhaps never amended. It is not improbable, that thoſe inſtances of ill ſucceſs, which Oſmer relates, were owing to his too liberal uſe of nitre.

In a caſe of great danger, prepare a ſtrong infuſion of camomile, rue, ſage, and horſe-radiſh, to two or three pints of which, add Peruvian bark finely powdered, ſix drachms; myrrh and madder, two drachms each; old Red Port wine half a pint, ſweeten with treacle, and give it the horſe blood warm, every four hours. On amendment of the putrid ſymptoms.

toms, this medicine muſt be exchanged for thoſe of a cooling diuretic quality; the following ſtands highly recommended by Oſmer —Crude ſal ammoniac and nitre, each one ounce; Caſtile ſoap, half an ounce; camphor rubbed with a little cold-drawn linſeed oil, two drachms; mix with mucilage of gum, for one ball or two, and give the doſe three times a day. The ſtate of the pulſe muſt determine the propriety of bleeding at all, or at what period of the diſeaſe. Should a critical abſceſs or eruptions appear, all poſſible means ſhould be uſed to encourage theſe efforts of nature; if not, a number of rowels ought to be inſerted in the breaſt and belly of the horſe. In preference to rowels in the common form, it was the practice of the above named author, to make a number of inciſions in any part of the ſkin, where looſe; to ſeparate the ſkin from the fleſh with the finger, and moderately fill the cavity with tow, dipped in digeſtive ointment, every day; firſt taking out the former dreſſing. Such is the ſpeedieſt method of bringing on a diſcharge, in more abundance, with leſs inflammation, and which may be continued for any length.

The following generals to be obſerved in Fevers, have juſt occurred to me: The mouth and throat ſhould be frequently cleanſed with vinegar, honey, and infuſion of ſage.—All

cathartics

cathartics are to be avoided, unleſs in caſe of extreme neceſſity, when the purging ſalts are to be uſed; the glyſters to be mild and often repeated. In that profuſe ſtaling, and debility which ſometimes happens, Gibſon directs the drinks to be made with lime-water. Bark is then indicated—In great reſtleſſneſs, or very inflammatory ſymptoms, opium may be given; or half a drachm of liquid laudanum in the fever drink.—In hectic fever, very moderate frictions may be uſed, ſeveral times a day. Sometimes on the termination of the fever, a horſe's legs ſwell and crack; reſtringent fomentations, camphorated ſpirits, walking exerciſe, according to ability: See latter part of Chapter II.

I ſhall wind up this account of peſtilential fever, with a quotation from Oſmer, which, in my humble conception, evinces the ſoundneſs of the man's underſtanding, and the integrity and independence of his mind: prejudice and hypocriſy, and good morals, are things *in toto, diverſa et contraria.* Speaking of his method of cure, he ſays, by the uſe of it " the good biſhops will " avoid the fatigue of compoſing pious forms " of prayer to deprecate this evil—as if the " Almighty Being (like an earthly prince) was " to be influenced by human intreaties to alter " his general laws, whereby all things are " governed—not conſidering that natural evils

" muſt

" muſt unavoidably happen to the creatures " of this earthly ſtate, from the contingencies " of food and climate."

PLEURISY, PERIPNEUMONY, SUPERFICIAL OR EXTERNAL PLEURISY, INFLAMMATION OF THE DIAPHRAGM, &c.

Theſe are obſtructions in the parts ſpecified, from the effects of exceſſive labour, repelled perſpiration, or a too denſe and ſizy blood; a ſymptomatic fever attends, generally inflammatory. On pleuretic diſeaſe, there is a general agreement between Gibſon, and the beſt medical writers of the preſent day, and both in the pathology and method of cure; for a copious account of it, as it regards horſes, Gibſon is the proper authority to be conſulted, who firſt diſcovered the diſeaſe in thoſe animals, and diſſected ſome which died of it. It is very rational to ſuppoſe, that horſes muſt be liable to all the various maladies of this claſs, but there is danger in pleuretic pains being miſtaken for gripes, for which reaſon the utmoſt attention ought to be paid to ſymptoms.

PLEURISY is an inflammation of the *pleura*, or membrane which lines the inſide of the cheſt, and in general ſeizes only one ſide; the ſymptoms are, reſtleſſneſs and increaſing fever, which ſoon attains a very high degree, vain attempts to lie down, with frequent pointing of

of the head to the affected ſide; ears and feet burning hot, mouth parched and dry, fever ſtill encreaſing to the end; running back as far as the collar will admit, remaining in that poſition panting with ſhort ſtops; diſpoſition to cough; dropping down.

PERIPNEUMONY is a more general inflammation, affecting the whole ſubſtance of the lungs, as well as the pleura, or membrane. Many of the ſymptoms are, of conſequence, common; but in the general inflammation, the animal is leſs irritated, and never offers to lie down, either in the beginning or during the continuance of the diſeaſe. Pulſe, ſtrong and high, ropy diſcharge from the noſe and mouth, ſimilar in colour and conſiſtence to that in a malignant fever; conſtant fulneſs and working at the flanks, particularly on exertion, ears and feet cold, damp ſweats, as in putrid fever or gripes.

In the cure of theſe inflammatory complaints, the grand dependence is in veneſection, and in Dr. Darwin's words "the lancet "muſt be uſed copiouſly and repeated as often "as the pain and difficult reſpiration increaſe. "A bliſter on the pained part. Antimonial "preparations. Diluents. Cool air. Do "neutral ſalts increaſe the tendency to cough?" *Zoonom.* vol. ii. 199. I have never obſerved ſuch effect of the ſalts upon horſes.

If

If the horſe be old and weak, bleed in ſmall quantity and often, that is, twice a day. Rowel in each ſide the breaſt and belly, unleſs the motion of the flanks is likely to prevent the operation of the rowel, then in the thighs. Mild bliſter with Spaniſh flies only, over the briſket and foremoſt ribs. Emollient glyſter, if needful, once a day. Theſe applications with any of the cooling febrifuge drinks before recommended, will generally ſucceed. It is remarkable in this caſe, Gibſon gives a caution againſt ſnake-root as too heating, whilſt Bartlet recommends a ſtrong decoction of it as a ſpecific.

Take ſpermaceti, one ounce, rub with the yolk of an egg; add one ounce Venice turpentine, mix; then take one ounce nitre powdered; and ſugar of lead two drachms; ſaffron half a drachm; chymical oil of aniſeeds, half a ſpoonful. Make two balls for one doſe, with honey or ſyrup of poppies, rolling them in liquorice powder. This from Gibſon; but I think the ſugar of lead ought by all means to be omitted, and it ſeems to be the only inſtance of temerarious practice in that cautious preſcriber. The balls to be given two or three times a day, waſhed down with the following drink. Coltsfoot, ſcabious, and ground-ivy, of each a large handful; a handful of barley; figs, half a pound; garlic, two ounces; horſe-radiſh,

radiſh, and aſſafœtida, half an ounce each; ſaffron two drachms. Boil in two quarts water, in a cloſe veſſel half an hour; pour off clear, and add one pint linſeed oil, and honey one pound.

The horſe continuing hot and reſtleſs, purging glyſters may be neceſſary, with an addition to the decoction, of caſtor and gum trågacanth, half an ounce each. Light open diet; hot maſhes with brimſtone and honey; ſcalded barley. If the horſe be ſtrong and ſound, finiſh the cure with a mild mercurial purge or two, or deterſive pectoral balls.

I have no doubt but horſes muſt be frequently ſubject to *Pleurodyne Chronica*, chronical pains, or ſtitches in the ſide, which may be properly enough deemed internal rheumatiſm; ſhould this be ſuſpected, bleeding and a judicious ſelection from the medicines already mentioned will be beneficial.

SUPERFICIAL OR EXTERNAL PLEURISY is an inflammation of the intercoſtal muſcles, which compoſe the fleſhy parts between the ribs. There is a ſtiffneſs and ſoreneſs to the touch in the ſhoulders and fore legs. Method of cure as before. If there appear any tendency to ſuppuration in the ſwelled parts, encourage it with ointment of marſhmallows, or other proper applications. OR, bathe with equal parts ſpirit of ſal ammoniac, and the above

above ointment; or the oil of camomile. Sometimes the humour will deſcend, and vent itſelf in an abſceſs beneath the ſhoulder, which is a favourable ſymptom.

INFLAMMATION OF THE DIAPHRAGM, OR MIDRIFF, OR SKIRT, as it is vulgarly called. Cure as before, where the caſe admits of cure; but according to Dr. Darwin, this accident in horſes and dogs admits of no cure, ſince they can only breathe by depreſſing the diaphragm. In this caſe the doctor ſays the mouth of the human patient is frequently retracted; and according to Gibſon, the horſe will be ſometimes jaw-ſet. This inflammation of the ſkirt, is probably the proximate cauſe of a horſe's ſtopping and falling in over exertion, as in the common caſe of hunters and poſt-horſes, inhumanly ridden to death. When there is any hope, bleed a ſmall quantity, and give every three hours, a drink of the reſtorative herbs, with tincture of aſſafœtida, half an ounce; ſnake-root, half an ounce; ſaffron, two drachms; two drachms laudanum. In a day or two, cordial ball in mulled Port; to one pint of which, add half a pint herb drink. On return of appetite, fine fragrant picked hay in very ſmall quantities, and warm maſhes of malt and freſh bran. Gentle frictions. Freſh air. Large bed to roll upon.

A Peripneumony neglected may terminate in a collection of coagulable lymph, left unabſorbed

abſorbed in the cheſt. This kind of dropſy is mentioned by Wood, and another writer whoſe name I have forgotten. The ſigns are, difficulty in moving the fore-quarters; if the diſeaſe be curable, tapping muſt be the means.

The following caſe of *pleurodyne*, happened a few years back. A hale, robuſt woman, of about thirty-five, accuſtomed to earn her living by gathering water-creſſes, became conſtantly afflicted with pains in her ſide. She was bled ſo frequently (although with little relief) that with the loſs of blood and poor living, ſhe became quiet emaciated, and died covered with vermin. This is the ſecond inſtance of the *morbus pediculoſus* which has come within my knowledge, a ſymptom which was aſſociated with the fatal diſeaſe of the celebrated Pym; and which my old favourites, the cavaliers, ſuperſtitiouſly attributed to the judgment of God, for diſloyalty to his Vicegerent.

THE ANTICOR, OR ANTICOEUR,

Is ſuppoſed by Solleyſel to be an inflammation of the pericardium, or bag which contains the heart, uſually terminating in a critical abſceſs in the cheſt; according to that writer, "if "the ſwelling aſcends to the throat it is pre-"ſent death." The diſeaſe ſeems to be unknown in this country, and is perhaps peculiar to warmer climes. It is of the pleuretic claſs.

THE

THE STRANGLES

Is a well-known diſeaſe, which attacks moſt colts, and according to Gibſon, uſually upon their being firſt put to labour, terminating in a critical abſceſs under the jaws.

The old Engliſh term for this diſeaſe, was the STRANGULLION; and Blundevil, after Laurentius Ruſſius, and the Italian writers, compares it to the *Cynanche* or *Angina* of the human ſpecies, giving of it, however, a very lame and imperfect account. Solleyſel ſtyles it a northern diſeaſe, and compares it with the ſmall-pox, as thoſe before him had compared it to the quinſey, and it no doubt bears analogy, in many reſpects, with both diſeaſes. It is one of thoſe ſpontaneous efforts of nature, to diſburthen herſelf of a ſuperflux of humours, which is final, and does not recur; as to the VIVES, to which aged horſes are ſubject, they either bear no relation to the ſtrangles, or this latter diſorder, in age, makes a different appearance. The matter of the ſtrangles is contagious in a certain degree, ſince a country farrier propagated the diſeaſe by innoculation, and wrote a pamphlet to recommend ſuch unneceſſary practice.

The authors to be conſulted in this caſe, are Gibſon and Bracken, all our other writers,

without reſerve, having merely copied them: Thoſe who may find it convenient " to ſink " a tedious hour in the ſerious taſk of criti- " ciſm," may refer to Mr. Taplin on the ſtrangles; where that moſt unfortunate of critics, like a true Signior Apundator, or Knight of the Peſtle, has ſuppoſed that *comminuted*, muſt neceſſarily and excluſively mean, *pulveriſed!*

Although the ſtrangles commonly attacks young horſes on their being firſt brought to labour, and the nouriſhing diet of the ſtable, at leaſt before they arrive at five years; yet I have both known unbroke colts ſeized with it in the fields, and horſes which have eſcaped it during their lives. Among colts at graſs, it has probably been ſometimes contagious. It is the cuſtom to ſuffer a colt to run it off at graſs; but I ſhould much rather prefer the taking him up inſtantly into warm keep, and proper care, leſt the diſcharge ſhould be checked by the repulſive property of the cold air, and a part of the diſeaſe, from inſufficient ſolution, be left in the habit to re-appear in time, under the guiſe and denomination of *Vives*. Bracken ſeems inclined, under ſome circumſtances, to repel the ſtrangles; but thoſe only in which it could poſſibly be ſafe practice, in my opinion, are, when the tumour or tumours are ſmall,

phlegmatic,

phlegmatic, and diſinclined to ſuppuration. They may then be treated with repellents as the *Vives*, alterative or purgative medicines being joined. This is no very uncommon caſe even with colts.

The ſigns of the approach of this diſeaſe, are thruſting out of the noſe, hoarſe cough, feveriſh heat, hot breath, heavy, and languid eyes, difficulty in deglution. A ſwelling appears between the jaw-bones, increaſing daily, until the fifth or ſixth day, when the impoſthumation breaks, diſcharging a large quantity of matter. In this favourable caſe, nothing more is neceſſary than to clothe the head well, anoint the abſceſs twice a day with an emollient ointment, and perhaps to enlarge the orifice, in a ſmall degree, when the matter firſt appears, and to heal afterwards with camphorated ſpirits. In the interim, the horſe's diet ſhould be ſoft and warm, with warm water, or white water, plenty of gruel, and the ſalts as occaſion may demand.

Should the diſorder ariſe upward among the glands, and divide itſelf into ſeveral tumours, which maturate at different periods, the progreſs and cure may be tedious: but when the abſceſs is formed above, nearly about the head of the windpipe, there is a degree of danger, ſince it may prevent a horſe from ſwallowing for ſeveral days; and if ſuppuration be long

delayed, a ſuffocation may enſue. In this ſituation the eyes will be fixed, and the noſtrils dilated, as in convulſion. Running at the noſe is looked upon as an unfavourable ſymptom. Sometimes the ſwelling ariſes on the inſide of the jaw-bone, when it is a conſiderable time in coming to maturity; and the diſcharge muſt be evacuated by the mouth.

When it is neceſſary to promote ſuppuration by art, unguents and warm fomentations, uſed three or four times a day, are preferable to poultices in this reſpect, that the latter are apt to become cold, and by their repelling effect in that ſtate, to undo all the good they may have previouſly done; a difficulty I have often experienced: but if the attendant will take the pains of replacing the poultices, the inſtant they loſe the neceſſary degree of heat, there is no method half ſo efficacious. Receipts for poultices, embrocations, unguents, and preparations of various kinds, will be found by a reference to the Index.

Should the diſcharge proceed by the mouth, cleanſe frequently with equal parts of beſt vinegar and ſpirit of wine, or brandy, diluted a little with water, and ſweetened with honey. Waſh the noſtrils with the ſame, paying all poſſible attention to cleanlineſs. Uſe no premature attempt to open the abſceſs, but ſhould nature be too tardy, a depending orifice may be

be made, not too deep, with a lighted candle, or preferably with a ſmall pointed cautery. If the fever run too high, bleed once; ſhould it become hectic and malignant, give the fever drink before preſcribed, and in caſe of much diſcharge from the noſe, that the horſe appears weakened, the bark with red wine will be the beſt reſtorative; or ſtrong decoctions of guiacum rendered palatable with raiſins, figs, and honey, a quart a day for a week or two. Indurations of the glands remaining after the cure, will be beſt diſperſed by ſtrong mercurial unction, keeping the horſe ſafe from cold; and mild mercurial phyſic. In the ſame manner, the *Vives* are to be treated.

THE YELLOWS,

Or JAUNDICE of the human ſpecies, is a common diſeaſe amongſt horſes and horned cattle, and ſometimes aſſociated with other maladies, as fever, catarrh, colic. The idiopathic, or jaundice, ſimply conſidered, is the primary effect of an obſtruction in the common gall-pipe (for the horſe has no gall-bladder) from various cauſes, by which the bile, or great part of it, inſtead of taking its deſtined courſe into the lower part of the firſt of the ſmall guts, where it is deſigned by nature to blunt and ſheathe the acids of the chyle, regurgitates into the *vena cava*, thence paſſing into the circu-

lation, tinging the fluids with a yellow hue. The ſymptoms are ſluggiſhneſs, want of appetite, rough coat, loſs of fleſh, and hollowneſs of flank, low fever, yellowneſs of the eyes and mouth, pale or brown urine, crude, looſe, and pale excrement, or very dark coloured, and in ſmall balls.

Should the diſeaſe have ariſen from high keep and indigeſtion, for want of air and exerciſe, or timely purgation, and the horſe be in tolerable ſtrength, begin the cure by once moderate bleeding, and the next day give the mild aloetic purge, with rhubarb, turmeric, and ſaffron. After the ſetting of this doſe, proceed regularly with the following infuſion, until the diſeaſe ſhall ſubmit, which in a favourable and recent caſe, may very well happen in a week. The INFUSION: Salt of tartar, two ounces; turmeric, three ounces; ſaffron and ſoap of tartar, each half an ounce; filings of iron, three ounces; mix in a gallon of beer (porter is preferable) and infuſe in a ſtone bottle corked up two or three days, ſhaking frequently. Strain off from a pint to a pint and half for a doſe, milk warm, every morning faſting.—Bracken.

OR: Indian rhubarb, turmeric, madder, liquorice root, ſal polychreſt, in powder, equal quantities; make balls with caſtile ſoap and honey. A common ſized ball twice a day. This ſeldom fails. Glyſter once or twice, if needful.

needful. Rowel. Water-gruel. Clothing. Air. Walking exerciſe. Perhaps another mild purge, or ſlight courſe of ſalts, may be neceſſary to bring the horſe into good working condition.

Should the diſeaſe proceed from ſeverity of labour, and chronic obſtructions, and the liver be effected, the moſt powerful chymical deobſtruents will be required. The external appearance of the horſe will ſhew the ſtate of the caſe but too plainly. Preparations of ſteel. Æthiop's mineral, or the antimonial powder, already given in a former Chapter, muſt be tried; but the adminiſtration of theſe ought to be in able profeſſional hands. Gibſon recommends bleedings, from the inflammatory ſtate in which he has found the livers, on diſſection of jaundiced horſes.

Frequently there will be but little occaſion for medicine, for the horſe will be dead in two or three days after being taken from work, when the liver will be found totally decayed; or a dark ſanious diſcharge will iſſue from the noſe and mouth, which the farriers ſay is the diſeaſe changed to the black jaundice, and which is incurable: I have ſeen both theſe caſes repeatedly, but never that inflammatory ſpecies of the diſeaſe which Gibſon ſays produces delirium and madneſs.

The inveterate jaundice may with the utmoſt propriety take the denomination of CON-

SUMPTION in horſes; a caſe in which the ſucceſs of a long courſe of medicine would by no means be ſo certain as the expence and trouble. A ſhort courſe well adviſed. Salt marſhes. Straw-yard with carrots and lucern hay.

Dr. Eagleton Smith records a cure of jaundice, ſuppoſed to originate from a wound in the liver, the patient being a ſoldier, with ſheep's gall and water, given after meals; the doſe, half an ounce of the gall freſh, to two ounces water. The digeſtive power had been totally deſtroyed by the diſeaſe. From a number of cruel experiments on living animals, and ſome others equally ſucceſsful and ſatisfactory upon dead ones, which ought entirely to have ſuperſeded the neceſſity of the former, the Doctor has brought very ſolid arguments to prove that the gall, not the gaſtric acid, is the menſtruum or principle of digeſtion in animals. Gall has been long preſcribed as a ſtomachic upon the continent; and may, in all probability, as a powerful aſſiſtant in digeſtion, be found an efficacious remedy in the conſumptions of men or horſes.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

VERTIGO — STAGGERS — APOPLEXY — EPILEPSY OR FALLING EVIL — CONVULSIONS — STAG EVIL — LOCKED JAW — NIGHTMARE.

WITH theſe our farriers make a notable confuſion, ſince they are moſt of them, to uſe Oſmer's words, "no more than ſecondary "effects," or the ſymptoms of various diſeaſes. This conſideration muſt fully evince the folly of depending upon advertiſed noſtrums for ſtaggers and convulſions, which medicines are generally cephalic mixtures calculated to palliate ſymptoms in ſome particular caſes, but ſeldom, or with extreme uncertainty, to be of any radical uſe. All pretended ſecrets for the cure of theſe diſeaſes, muſt inſtantly appear, to any man of a tolerable ſhare of medical information, to be mere impoſition: the beſt ſecret (and I am ſorry it is yet a ſecret among many) is a diligent obſervation of ſymptoms, and a familiarity with the *praxis*, and *methodus medendi* of the beſt authors. For the theory of apoplectic and convulſive diſeaſe in horſes, I refer the juvenile practitioner to Bracken; for the practic,

tic and method of cure, to Gibſon and Bartlet: there he will find ample ſatisfaction, but no where elſe, unleſs he meet with better ſucceſs than I have, after a painful ſearch.

Hippocrates ſays, that convulſions may proceed either from fullneſs or emptineſs; from plethora and too much blood, occaſioned by want of exerciſe or phyſic; or from extreme labour, over purgation, long watching, faſting, or wounds. The ſame may be ſaid of vertigo or giddyneſs, which may ariſe either from the turgeſcency and tenſion of the blood veſſels in the head, or the dilatation and weakneſs of the veſſels, and rarefaction of the blood; of the latter caſe I can ſorrowfully aſſure the Reader, *haud inexpertus loquor.*

The idiopathic STAGGERS in horſes, anſwers preciſely in all reſpects, whether of cauſe, ſymptoms, or conſequence, with the apoplexy of the human ſpecies. The proximate cauſe of the diſeaſe, is ſuppoſed to be a ſtagnation of the blood in the *plexus choroides*, and other ſmall veſſels of the brain, which preſſing upon the origin of the nerves, impedes the action of the animal ſpirits, and puts a ſudden ſtop to the functions of life. The remote cauſes are, generally, over-fullneſs, richneſs, or ſluggiſhneſs of the blood.

The HEAD-ACH in horſes, mentioned by all the old writers, is generally a prelude to the ſtaggers,

ſtaggers, as is alſo vertigo or giddyneſs (formerly called the STURDY or TURNSICK) which ſymptom makes its appearance on their firſt being led into the air from the ſtable. The ſigns of the head-ache are, hanging down of the head, drooping of the ears, dull and watery eyes, dropping of urine, and coſtiveneſs. Probably the pain of the head and vertigo ariſe, at firſt, merely from aſſociation with the nervous coat of the ſtomach, the original ſeat of the obſtruction, which being neglected, it at laſt reaches the brain, and a fit of the apoplexy, or ſtaggers, is the immediate conſequence. The horſe falls ſuddenly, and although ſometimes the paroxiſm will in ſeven or eight minutes exhauſt itſelf, and the animal recover, and ariſe without aſſiſtance; yet, in many caſes, unleſs timely relief were afforded by opening a vein (the only remedy) death would be the conſequence in a very ſhort ſpace. The fit is ſometimes attended with ſtrong violent convulſion, at others not; in the firſt caſe, the animal rolls and beats himſelf in a frightful manner; otherwiſe he lies on his ſide groaning, and foaming at the mouth, heaving violently at the flanks, his eyes and tail ſet, fleſh trembling and convulſed.

I have ſeen various caſes of ſtaggers; the laſt was as follows: Walking up Fleet-ſtreet, I obſerved a crowd of people wonderfully diverted with the agonies of a cart-horſe beating himſelf almoſt

almoſt to pieces, in, I think, the moſt violent convulſions I ever witneſſed. He threw himſelf repeatedly upon the foot-path, and was very near going headlong into a ſhop. To my aſtoniſhment, the fellows who ſeemed to belong to the horſe, took no ſteps whatever towards his recovery, but were making themſelves as merry, with the reſt of the mob, as though they were enjoying the humane, conſiderate, and harmleſs diverſion of hunting a miſerable and forlorn diſcarded dog, with a canniſter tied to his tail. It was impoſſible for me to be ſilent—I called out ſo often, "Why don't you bleed "the horſe in the mouth?" that a tall fellow, with a whip on his ſhoulder, took offence at my importunity, and turning to me with a countenance in which contempt was exceedingly well depicted, interrupted me with "Bleed your "ſiſter—And pray now, what do *you* know "about the matter?—don't you ſee that the "horſe has got the mad-ſtaggers, and muſt die." Well knowing my own foible, and that I had no hand at a retort, I remained ſilent. Preſently the violence of the fit abated, the horſe ſtretched himſelf out, ſhaking and groaning terribly, and with the almoſt certain indications of the inſufficiency of nature to free herſelf without aſſiſtance. The carter now ſtanding by his horſe's head, I determined to make one more eſſay, and the anecdote of a certain great man

on

on ſhipboard; and "extinguiſh that illumina-
"tion," coming that moment acroſs my mind, I reſolved alſo not to make a ſimilar blunder. Accordingly putting myſelf in the moſt favourable poſture to obtain a hearing, I bawled out as loud as I was able, "—— your —— you "thick-ſculled ſon of a ——, why don't you "cut the bars of the horſe's mouth and be —— "to you?" I ſhall never forget it—theſe flowers of the mother tongue operated upon the fellow's auditory nerves like a charm; he juſt caſt a kind of vacant look towards the place whence the voice proceeded, whilſt his hand mechanically ſlid down to his pocket; out came his knife, and after a little aukward fumbling, he drew blood in the roof of the horſe's mouth. The iſſue of the blood relieved the preſſure on the nerves inſtantaneouſly, and the horſe giving three or four ſobs, was upon his legs in leſs than five minutes; and was led ſtaggering away to a farrier, to receive, I ſuppoſe, a cordial drink, by way of preparing him for another fit. I could not help maliciouſly aſking my old antagoniſt, the tall man with the whip, whether all horſes died of the mad-ſtaggers? "Well, "Mr. Wiſe-acre," replied this acute ſophiſter of the ſtable, "don't you ſee the horſe had not "the mad-ſtaggers, or he would not have got "over it." What a public loſs, that ſuch a genius had not been bred a lawyer or a politician!

tician! The horſe appeared to be high-fed and full of blood, and had been ſtrained hard in drawing a heavy load, in all probability, immediately upon a full feed.

This, like the colic, is plainly the diſeaſe of neglected evacuations; and an immenſe load of feces or dung retained in the inteſtines, is generally one of the moſt powerful cauſes. Cart-horſes particularly, will always be ſubject to ſuch maladies, unleſs they are occaſionally purged; but *venienti occurrite morbo* has been echoed by every writer ſince Hippocrates, to no manner of purpoſe.

I am ſuppoſing a caſe of ſimple apoplexy from plethora, and the ſubject ſtrong, and full of humours. To grooms and farriers, ſhould any ſuch honour me with a peruſal, I muſt note here, that I do not mean corrupt or tainted humours, but merely a ſuperabundance of the animal juices, in their natural ſtate. Attend firſt to the moſt urgent ſymptom, which being palliated, deliberate on the cauſe, and the moſt proper means of a radical cure. Bleed plentifully, and in ſeveral parts at once, if need be, from two quarts, even to five or ſix, according to circumſtances. Repeat, in a leſs quantity, next day if required. If the horſe be caſt, raiſe his head and ſhoulders with a truſs of ſtraw. The fit over, ſeatons may be made in ſeveral parts of the body. Laxative glyſters, morning

and

and night; backraking previouſly. Salined water or drinks. Water-gruel plenty, and maſhes. If the horſe ſtill appear dull and heavy about the head, blow up his noſtrils, with a long ſlender pipe, half an egg-ſhell full of finely powdered *aſara bacca*, two or three nights the laſt thing; and keep him from catching cold. Walking exerciſe. After a week, a briſk aloetic purge: the following week, begin a courſe of alterative balls, the ſize of a pigeon's egg, morning and night; a fortnight's or month's continuance may ſuffice. One ounce of native cinnabar, mixed with half a pound of the cordial ball, is recommended by Dr. Bracken. I have not obſerved this caſe to require the aſſiſtance of any nervous or cephalic medicines.

In INFLAMMATION OF THE BRAIN, AND DELIRIUM, copious and frequent bleedings, glyſters, and the uſe of nitre, to the amount of from ſix to eight ounces in a day, are the only dependance. Blundevil ſays he has ſeen a mad horſe bite the fleſh from his own ſhoulders.

Gibſon deſcribes the ſymptom of a horſe rearing up, and falling back, on the approach of any one to handle his head, referring the cauſe to water in the ventricle, which from the erect poſition of the head, flowing backward, cauſes a ſudden preſſure and weight on the *cerebellum* and origin of the nerves. He ſays young horſes are moſt liable. I have ſeen one

or

or two inſtances of this, which the farriers called the megrim. I was not clearly ſatisfied, that the head was the ſeat of the diſeaſe; but if ſo, I ſhould ſuppoſe that frequent moderate bleedings, ſetons, or rowels, and the medicines preſcribed generally in convulſions and epilepſy, muſt be indicated.

In general, THE EPILEPSY is rather to be referred to a weak cauſe and to inanition, than to plethora. The convulſions do not always proceed originally from the head, but from aſſociation with ſome other affected part. The cauſes, immediate or remote, may be conſtitutional debility, exceſſive exertion, labour unaccuſtomed, or too long continued without the neceſſary remiſſions. The common ſigns are, reeling and ſtaggering, eyes fixed, inſenſibility to every thing, turning round, ſudden falling down, convulſions ſucceeded by ſtillneſs, inſenſibility as if death were approaching, legs ſtretched out ſtiff and immoveable, trembling and working at the flanks; horſes will ſometimes continue in this ſtate for ſeveral hours, and at laſt ariſe of themſelves: a dry white foam in the mouth is generally a favourable ſymptom, indicating the termination of the fit.

The cure: Bleeding according to ſtrength; but here the utmoſt precaution is neceſſary, for as in the apoplexy from *plethora*, and a ſuperabundance of the material of life, too free

a uſe

a uſe of the lancet can ſcarce be made, ſo in caſes of exhauſtion, even a ſmall treſpaſs on the quantity of blood, is not repaired for a great length of time. Body to be kept ſoluble by glyſters. The following ball and drink, to be given once or twice a day at firſt; afterwards, once in two or three days, until the ceſſation of the diſeaſe. Aſafœtida, half an ounce; Ruſſia caſtor pounded, and Venice turpentine, each two drachms; diapente, one ounce; make the ball with honey and oil of amber.

FOR THE DRINK TO WASH DOWN THE BALL. Take pennyroyal and miſletoe, each a large handful; valerian root, one ounce; liquorice, half an ounce; ſaffron, two drachms; infuſe in a quart of boiling water two hours, pour off. OR, the following may be uſed if neceſſary, to warm and invigorate the blood. Caſtor and aſafœtida, of each half an ounce; rue and pennyroyal, of each a large handful; filings of iron tied up in a bag, half a pound; infuſe in two quarts boiling water, and keep the infuſion cloſe covered by itſelf. Then take Virginia ſnakeweed, contrayerva and valerian, each half an ounce; ſaffron and cochineal, each two drachms; infuſe in a quart of white wine (or fine ſound old ale) in the ſun, or by the fire ſide, covered, twenty-four hours. Mix a pint of the firſt infuſion and a gill of the

tincture for a doſe once a day, or oftner, if required.

The above forms are from Gibſon, the firſt who preſcribed medicines of this claſs for horſes in the ſtaggers, which were afterwards highly approved by Dr. Bracken, who only objected to the expence. Myrrh and ammoniacum, are alſo recommended by Gibſon.

A DRINK AGAINST STAGGERS, FROM BARTLET. Wild valerian-root, bruiſed, four ounces; boil in three quarts water to two, diſſolve in it eight ounces nitre, and add one pint antimonial wine or beer. Doſe, one pint or more, every ſix hours, for three days. NERVOUS BALL, from the ſame. Cinnabar of antimony, ſix drachms; aſafœtida, half an ounce; ariſtolochia, myrrh, and bay-berries, two drachms each; ball with treacle and oil of amber.

CHEAP NERVOUS DRINK, FROM GIBSON. Rue, pennyroyal, and camomile, each a handful; aſafœtida, one ounce; boil in a quart of forge water, letting the decoction ſtand on the ingredients. Give two or three hornfuls every four hours.

I have taken leave to ſubſtitute chamomile for tobacco in this drink, having objections to the internal uſe of the latter, which I am not at the inſtant prepared to ſtate.

Should the yellows be aſſociated with convulſions,

vulſions, or more properly, the former be attended with convulſions; the ſpecific medicines, and treatment for each, muſt in courſe be joined.

STAG-EVIL, AND LOCKED JAW.

This ſtag-evil, *tetanus*, or cramp, is ſometimes ſo univerſal and laſting, that perhaps it ought to be deemed idiopathic convulſion in horſes. As to the locked jaw, or *tetanus triſmus*, it is a ſymptom, or affection ariſing from ſympathy, or conſent of parts, generally with a wounded tendon. A year or two ſince, a horſe-dealer, driving his chaiſe near town, his horſe picked up a nail, which penetrated ſo deep, that he was inſtantly ſeized with the locked jaw, or in the common phraſe, became jaw-ſet. I believe the horſe died in a day or two.

Gibſon ſpeaks as follows of the ſtag-evil. He has known horſes clear their racks in the night, and in the morning drink their water, and eat their uſual allowance of corn; and yet, in leſs than half an hour, have had their mouths cloſe ſhut up, and their whole bodies convulſed.

" As ſoon as a horſe is ſeized in this manner, " his head is raiſed with his noſe towards his " rack, his ears prick'd up, and his tail cock'd, " looking with an eagerneſs as an hungry horſe, " when hay is put down to him, or like a high

" ſpirited horſe when he is put upon his mettle
" —his neck grows ſtiff, cramped, and almoſt
" immoveable; and if he lives in this condi-
" tion a few days, knots and ganglions will
" ariſe in the tendinous parts; all the muſcles
" will be cramped, legs ſtiff, wide and ſtraddling,
" as if the horſe were nailed to the pavement;
" ſkin drawn tight in all parts, eyes fixed, ſcarce
" any ability to walk; ſnorts and ſneezes often,
" which ſymptom increaſes till he drops dead,
" which happens in a few days."

I have already ſpoken of cramp as occaſioned by cold; the ancient veterinarians were no ſtrangers to this accident. *Theomneſtus* deſcribes his favourite horſe to have been univerſally cramped and jaw-ſet, from paſſing the mountains in a deep ſnow; which he cured by raiſing a diaphoreſis in the horſe, with a large fire in the ſtable, and by anointing his body with a ſtrange compoſition, of an immenſe number of articles, called *Acopum*.

Gibſon ſuppoſed the ſtag-evil to proceed frequently from worms, or ulcerations and impoſthumes in the midriff, or other principal bowels. Of the methods of cure, the external chiefly remains to be treated. Bleed plentifully or otherwiſe, according, to circumſtances. Rub into the cheeks, temples, neck, ſhoulders, ſpines of the back and loins, or wherever is the greateſt contraction, the following LINIMENT.

MENT. Nerve ointment, four ounces; ointment of marſhmallows, ſix ounces; muſtard-ſeed ground, and Flanders oil of bays, each two ounces; oil of amber, two ounces; make the liniment thin with camphorated ſpirits.

OR, as a cheap liniment, muſtard-ſeed freſh ground, with camphorated ſpirits.

To perform the friction ſufficiently and with effect, will require the exertions of two men, for unleſs there be almoſt continual rubbing in a dangerous caſe, the contraction and inſenſibility increaſes, and many horſes have been ſo loſt.

Other FORMS OF LINIMENT. Ethereal oil of turpentine (or the common) four ounces; nerve ointment, and oil of bay, each two ounces; camphor rubbed fine, one ounce; rectified oil of amber, three ounces; tincture of cantharides, one ounce. OR. Soap liniment, four ounces; ſpirit of ſal ammoniac and tincture of opium, each one ounce. Mix.

WARM BATH, OR SWEATING IN A HOT-HOUSE, WELL CLOTHED. No violence muſt be uſed to force open the mouth, which will exaſperate all the ſymptoms, perhaps induce delirium. Nutritive glyſters. Laxative and cephalic ditto. In a very bad caſe, Gibſon had great ſucceſs with crude opium, injected half an ounce in a glyſter, which he afterwards followed up (the mouth opening a little) with a

ball of an ounce of Matthews's pill, and two drachms *aſafœtida*, waſhed down with warm gruel. I ſhould ſuppoſe camphor and nitre in a glyſter, probable to be attended with good effects in this caſe, and would recommend repeated trials of it. Should they be joined with the opium, or laudanum, or warm ſpiced wine? The intent is to ſtimulate, to excite warmth and ſenſibility, and I have been informed that the diſcharge of cold water upon a locked jaw has been tried, but with very ill ſucceſs. The above cure was completed with ſeveral mild aloetic purges, in which were joined *aſafœtida*, *ammoniacum*, and ſaffron; Gibſon remarking, that the common plantation aloe was more apt to create, than cure nervous diſorders.

Of the PALSY in horſes, having no experience, I have nothing farther to ſay, than that I ſuppoſe the foregoing remedies applicable thereto. The ſame of the LETHARGY or SLEEPY EVIL; this laſt in a horſe full of cold, viſced juices, will be cured by bleeding, rowels, infuſions of the herbs, with muſtard, horſe-radiſh, and parſley, acidulated with cremor tartar, and ſweetened with honey. Briſk purge of aloes and jalap, or a mercurial purge. Cinnabar balls. It ſhould be remembered always to acidulate the cooling herb drinks with cremor tartar or lemon juice, as otherwiſe they pall and diſguſt the ſtomachs of horſes; and that

that generally, infuſions in boiling water, are to be preferred to decoctions.

There can be no doubt that horſes are frequently troubled with the ASTHMA NOCTURNUM, INCUBUS, or NIGHTMARE, the ſymptoms of which, are thoſe profuſe ſweats, and twiſting and diſhrevelling of the mane, diſcovered at their upriſing in the morning; which the country fellows of old, attributed to the jockeyſhip and hard poſt-work of Oberon and his queen. The cauſe, a denſe and fizy blood, and inteſtinal accumulation. It is one of the ſalutary warnings of beneficent nature, which is not always neglected with impunity. Veneſection. Purgatives. Exerciſe. Graſs.

CHAP. XI.

ON LOSS OF APPETITE—BULIMIA, OR CRAVING APPETITE—COSTIVENESS—LAX OR SCOURING—MOTTEN GREASE—HIDEBOUND AND SURFEIT—WARBLES—MANGE—FARCY—PLICA POLONICA—DROPSY—WORMS.

LOSS OF APPETITE.

THIS ariſes either from errors in diet and management, want of graſs, or from conſtitutional or acquired debility. If the digeſtive powers of the horſe have been overburdened with accumulated feeds of corn, and at the ſame time evacuations and exerciſe neglected, nothing may be required farther than the oppoſite management. Maſhes for ſome days. Courſe of ſalts and cremor tartar; after an aloetic purge.

If a weak caſe, a run at graſs, and the mildeſt purging courſe on return. Gibſon adviſes to add to the purge of aloes and rhubarb, two drachms of elixir proprietatis prepared with oil of ſulphur by the ball. After the operation of each purge, to give the following drink, warmed in cold weather.

Take

Take a large handful of guiacum ſhavings; pomegranite bark, and baluſtines bruiſed, each one ounce; galangels and liquorice root ſliced, each half an ounce; boil in two quarts forge water to three pints, and whilſt warm, infuſe in the decoction two drachms ſaffron, and half an ounce diaſcordium. It makes two drinks. OR. Chalybeate beer with bitters (ſee Index) once a day. Looſe ſtable. Walking exerciſe, or daily turning out in yard or paddock.

I have ſpoken elſewhere of the conſtitutional appetites of horſes. Some are off their ſtomach at moulting, or ſhedding their coats, when they require a ſomewhat warmer regimen and comfortable maſhes, with cordial ball daily. Mares, in their horſing time, will ſometimes loſe their appetite, when a gentle ſaline courſe is good, and afterwards cordial balls, once a day for a week. CRIB-BITING may deſtroy the appetite, or induce *bulimia*. The only cure of that vice is to leave nothing in the way to be laid hold on, as in a looſe ſtall with no rack or manger.

Solleyſel, who was a moſt diligent and accurate obſerver, pretends horſes ſometimes loſe their ſtomachs, from "little worms lodged "within the lips, above and below, which "cauſe ſuch an itching, that he is continually "rubbing his lips againſt the manger. Theſe "worms appear like little puſhes when you "turn

" turn back the lips, and are diſlodged by " cutting the uppermoſt ſkin, where they ap- " pear, with a ſharp knife, and rubbing with " ſalt and vinegar." I have frequently noticed horſes rubbing their lips againſt the manger in the manner mentioned by this writer, but can pretend to no acquaintance with the lip-worms.

BULIMIA, OR CRAVING APPETITE.

Horſes addicted to this, are commonly ſtyled FOUL FEEDERS: It may ariſe from an acid or acrimonious juice in the ſtomach, the conſequence of indigeſtion, and this may have for its cauſe either over repletion and want of exerciſe, or debility of the organs of digeſtion.

The proper cure is to cleanſe the firſt paſſages with abſorbents and purgatives, and ſhould the diſeaſe ariſe from debility, to uſe corroborants, as directed in the laſt caſe. Of abſorbents, none equal magneſia and ſalt of tartar, as they evacuate as well as abſorb, whereas chalk, and the teſtaceous powders, are apt to leave a load upon the ſtomach; but in weak caſes, joined with looſeneſs, theſe latter are preferable. To the purge, No. 6, join diapente, one ounce and half.

Horſes in this ſtate will eat clay, wall, or dirt, wet foul litter, or even the dung of other horſes.

horſes. Keep the ſtall clean, with freſh litter. In ſome horſes this conſtant deſire of eating is merely a habit, and of no great conſequence, ſince you can regulate their diet at will, and they can ſcarce devour clean ſtraw enough to injure them.

COSTIVENESS, ſee Chap. vii. p. 274.

LAX OR SCOURING, OR DIARRHÆA.

There is a nervous diarrhæa in horſes, which I hinted at before; thoſe ſubject to it are generally young, and of a weak and irritable habit: it attends them only whilſt in work, when they ſeldom carry any fleſh; the complaint is out of the reach of medicine, but will ſometimes ſubſide ſpontaneouſly, after a few years uſe. Many years ago, I had a favourite young horſe ſubject to this defect, with which I made the grand medical tour to no ſort of purpoſe, the only reſult was, the nag whilſt at play was always fat as bacon, and very firm in body; but a week's work reduced his fleſh, and cauſed him to dung like a cow. Theſe delicate horſes require great care and dietetic attention to render them of much uſe. Strong nutriment, but in moderate quantities at a time. Good old dried beans in their oats, lucern or the hardeſt and beſt upland hay; rice maſhes, carrots, occaſional runs at graſs.

The ſcouring in horſes which requires and admits

admits a remedy, may ariſe from various cauſes: from an acrimonious ichor in the ſtomach and inteſtines, from the fermentation and ſudden diſſolution of excrement long retained, from the ſolution of perſpirable matter thrown upon the lower bowels, on occaſion of drinking cold water when hot, or other cauſes of cold, from colliquation of the fatty ſubſtance of the body in being over heated by exceſſive labour, eſpecially when out of condition; or laſtly, diarrhæa may be a concomitant, or termination of diſeaſe.

As to the cure, it is a general rule never to exhibit aſtringents, or to attempt to ſtop a flux in the commencement, ſince the diſcharge may be merely an effort of nature to relieve herſelf from a morbid load. Gentle laxatives are rather indicated, and rhubarb from its cardiac and ſub-aſtringent quality, is the ſheet-anchor in this caſe, which I may with truth obſerve is very familiar to me. In common caſes, and indeed generally, aſtringents are by no means neceſſary, the effect and proper cauſe ceaſing together; but ſhould the purging continue until the healthy humours begin to be evacuated, and the animal become weak in conſequence, no time ought to be loſt in attempting to ſtay the flux. Solleyſel fixes the period of waiting to three days, when he ſays the horſe will begin to loſe his appetite.

The

The LAXATIVE AND SUB-ASTRINGENT BALL OR DRINK. Take one ounce fine Turkey rhubarb, freſh powdered, lenitive electuary, two ounces; ginger finely powdered, two drachms; ball with ſifted oat-flour, or make a drink with gruel. To be given every other day, three times. The night after the operation of each doſe, the following drink may be given warm, if circumſtances appear to require it. Diaſcordium half an ounce to an ounce, in either a tea made of mint, ſage, chamomile, and dried red roſes; or ale, or gruel.

But ſhould the diſeaſe turn out too powerful for theſe remedies, and the ſcouring continue with griping pains, loſs of appetite, heaving at the flanks, and fever, an efficacious reſtringent courſe muſt be adapted, both in the medicines given at the mouth, and frequent glyſters.

RESTRINGENT GLYSTER. Oak bark four ounces; tormentil-root, two ounces; chamomile, two handfuls; burnt hartſhorn, three ounces; boil in three quarts forge water to two; ſtrain off, and add two ounces diaſcordium; four ounces of ſtarch or ground-rice; and half a drachm of opium. This quantity may ſerve once or twice according to circumſtances. Repeat once a day.

The DRINK, to be exhibited daily. Take aniſeeds, carraways, and leſſer cardamoms, one ounce each; juniper berries, four ounces; bruiſe

admits a remedy, may ariſe from various cauſes: from an acrimonious ichor in the ſtomach and inteſtines, from the fermentation and ſudden diſſolution of excrement long retained, from the ſolution of perſpirable matter thrown upon the lower bowels, on occaſion of drinking cold water when hot, or other cauſes of cold, from colliquation of the fatty ſubſtance of the body in being over heated by exceſſive labour, eſpecially when out of condition; or laſtly, diarrhæa may be a concomitant, or termination of diſeaſe.

As to the cure, it is a general rule never to exhibit aſtringents, or to attempt to ſtop a flux in the commencement, ſince the diſcharge may be merely an effort of nature to relieve herſelf from a morbid load. Gentle laxatives are rather indicated, and rhubarb from its cardiac and ſub-aſtringent quality, is the ſheet-anchor in this caſe, which I may with truth obſerve is very familiar to me. In common caſes, and indeed generally, aſtringents are by no means neceſſary, the effect and proper cauſe ceaſing together; but ſhould the purging continue until the healthy humours begin to be evacuated, and the animal become weak in conſequence, no time ought to be loſt in attempting to ſtay the flux. Solleyſel fixes the period of waiting to three days, when he ſays the horſe will begin to loſe his appetite.

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bruiſe and put them into five pints mint water, adding diaſcordium, one ounce; boil to three pints; ſtrain, and add good old Port half a pint, or ſtrong beer, ſweeten with treacle. In caſe of much pain and twitching in the bowels, two ſpoonfuls of laudanum may be added.

The diaſcordium, or ſpecies of ſcordium, is compoſed of ſuch a variety of cordial, aromatic, and aſtringent ingredients, that it ſaves trouble, and is of equal efficacy with the mode of preſcribing a number of various articles of ſimilar intent: it may be given in balls with the ſeeds, compounded with prepared chalk and ſyrup of poppies. Maſhes of malt and rice mixed, ſhould be allowed, water in ſmall quantities at a time, and mixed with rice gruel, or ſolution of gum arabic.

I have not heard that horſes are ſubject to dyſenteries, but in caſe of a flux of blood with the excrement, Bartlet preſcribes the following drink. Diaſcordium and French bole, one ounce each; Ipecacuhan powdered, two drachms; opium half a drachm; diſſolve in a pint of warm ale, or Port and water, and give it twice a day. Perhaps it would be better to begin with half the quantity of diaſcordium. In caſe of a LIENTERY, or voiding chyle with the excrement, or the aliment unchanged, bark and bitters (ſee Index) muſt be brought forward in aid of the other medicines. OR.

The

The following INFUSION, from Bracken. Take zedoary and gentian half an ounce each; orange peel, and Winter's bark, one ounce each; fine myrrh in powder, half an ounce; flowers of camomile and leſſer centaury, each half a handful; mace and cloves two drachms each. Beat all groſsly together, and infuſe two days in a gallon of good Port, or ſtrong beer, cold. Doſe, one pint every morning, milk-warm, adding two ounces ſyrup of dried roſes to every doſe.

MOTTEN-GREASE, OR BODY-FOUNDER.

This is a colliquation or general melting of the *adeps* or fatty ſubſtance of the body, great part of which is abſorbed, and thrown upon the blood, and upon the inteſtines, whence it is voided with the excrement. The horſe muſt needs be ſubject to this malady in a greater degree than moſt other animals, from his natural propenſity to acquire fat in a ſhort time, whence Dr. Anderſon is inclined to prefer horſe-fleſh to beef, for the ſhambles. This diſeaſe has ever been more frequent upon the continent than with us, and it may eaſily be diſcovered from Bracken's writing, that he had never ſeen it. I have repeatedly ſeen it, but not in any very dangerous form. The blood of a horſe taken up from graſs will not only have a greaſy pellicle or ſkin upon it, but will cut

cut ſeveral inches deep in fat; this being of a looſe and unſubſtantial texture, and not firm like the *pinguedo* or ſuet; no wonder it will fuſe, and be ſet afloat by extraordinary heat and violent exertion.

Greaſy dejections may be nothing more than a ſpontaneous effort of nature; in that caſe, nothing farther is indicated than to aſſiſt her gradually by evacuations, and to pay a better future attention to regimen and exerciſe; but our buſineſs here is with the diſeaſe as it ariſes from over-exertion, and as is commonly the caſe, when the horſe has been unprepared: of courſe, horſes are moſt liable in the heat of ſummer.

Symptoms, knocking up at work, refuſal of food on being led in, drooping of the head and ears, univerſal ſweat, trembling, heaving at the flanks, and turning the head towards them as if griped, the excrement ſoon appears greaſy, and a ſcouring comes on in a few hours; afterward ſtiffneſs and inaptitude to motion, perhaps ſwelled legs. When a boy, I rode a horſe with a great deal of looſe, groſs fleſh about him, twenty-one miles in a warm ſummer's morning, and reduced him to pretty nearly the above deſcribed ſtate. Many poſt-horſes under theſe ſymptoms are neglected, and nature in a few days riſes ſuperior to the diſeaſe in a certain degree, but only to ſubmit to it after a while in the more formidable ſhape of

of ſurfeit, farcy, or glanders. Thouſands of unfortunate creatures are made wretched for the poor remainder of their lives, and ſacrificed only for the want of a week's reſpite, and a few ſhillingsworth of medicine.

The CURE. Bleed plentifully at firſt, if there be ſufficient ſtrength, and repeat ſeveral times in more moderate quantity. Emollient glyſters with lenitive electuary, and a ſmall quantity of linſeed oil. Give the febrifuge drinks with cremor tartar and fine rhubarb. Bartlet adviſes to finiſh with balls of camphor and nitre, two ounces of the latter, one drachm the former, they may be compounded with aniſeeds, honey, and Caſtile ſoap. OR, a courſe of the rhubarb and aloetic purge, with ſix drachms diapente. OR. The following alterative purge three or four times. Fine aloes ſix drachms; powdered guiacum, half an ounce; diaphoretic antimony and powdered myrrh, each two drachms, ball with ſyrup of buckthorn.

Sometimes three or four ſetons or rowels may be neceſſary in this diſeaſe the horſe being very groſs.

HIDEBOUND AND SURFEIT.

The common term hidebound, is applied to a tightneſs and adheſion of the ſkin, occaſioned by obſtruction or deficiency of fluid in the cu-

ticular veſſels. It is a general ſymptom of the unthriftineſs of animals, as an openneſs and a warm and moiſt feel of the hide, is of their health and thriving condition. As a mere ſymptom, this defect will of courſe follow the fate of the parent diſeaſe, that our preſent buſineſs is only with the tightneſs of the hide as it exiſts apparently by itſelf, and is generally owing to want of care and nouriſhment, or imperfect concoction of the aliment, ariſing either from obſtruction, or the debility occaſioned by unremitting labour. The cure, immediate graſs; or, good ſtable care with clothing, plenty of friction, and gentle walking exerciſe, with the precaution of not over-feeding at firſt. Carrots, boiled barley, and maſhes. One moderate bleeding, or inſtead, what ſometimes I have ſeen very ſucceſsful, one rowel. The mildeſt alterative powder, a fortnight, then a doſe of aloetic phyſic. The complaint neglected will degenerate into a SURFEIT. This term, of French derivation, to ſpeak correctly and according to etymology (a uſage which, however, is never ſtrictly obſerved in any ſcience) ought to be applied only to an animal *over-done* and glutted, but it is of univerſal application to thoſe of a lean, hidebound, and unthrifty appearance, particularly when their coats look dead and ruſty, and do not lie ſmooth. Its confirmed ſtate is attended with

with eruptions, and ſometimes ſwellings of the legs and joints, and in the latter caſe is uſually to be looked upon as the termination of ſome chronic diſeaſe, or a conſequence of the improper uſe of mercurial phyſic. Surfeits are ſtyled DRY, or WET; in the former, the ſkin is covered with a thick dry ſcurf, with ſcabs, and ſmall hard tumours like warbles; in the latter, a ſharp briny ichor iſſues from the poll, neck, withers, quarters, and hinder legs, in the bend of the hock, cauſing great ſtiffneſs and inflammation; this is probably analogous with ſcurvy in the human body, and will often attend cart-horſes with foul and unwholeſome blood, at ſtated periods. The too free uſe of beans will produce the wet ſurfeit.

The cure of SURFEITS depends almoſt entirely upon internal alteratives with a very ſmall attention to external applications: as to the latter, perhaps, frequent cleanſing with a good ſtrong lather of ſoap, is generally ſufficient, but where the eruptions are hard, and fixed, and the ſcabs do not peel off, I know of nothing better than to rub them frequently with the ſtrong mercurial unction, keeping the horſe well clothed, and giving warm water in the interim. The warm bath, if the animal be ſtrong. It is neceſſary here to give a caution againſt the common practice of the farriers,

which is to bleed, and treat diſeaſes of this claſs, with violent external repellents only. I lately ſaw an inſtance of a Friezland coach-horſe, in ſuch a ſurfeited ſtate from over-repletion and want of exerciſe, that he was covered with eruption, and the ſuperabundant humours ſeemed ready for extravaſation in every part of his body. As faſt as the doctor repelled the humour in one part it re-appeared in another; but I underſtand he ſucceeded at laſt, in *killing it*, without the leaſt change as to the diet of the horſe, or the aſſiſtance of any internal remedy. It is true, the virulence of the humour might have ſpent itſelf in thoſe irruptions, but ſtill no certain reliance could be placed, and there muſt have been great probability of the danger of its tranſlation to ſome noble part; perhaps the eyes.

Suppoſing the caſe ſimilar to the example juſt given, that is to ſay, a real ſurfeit from glut of provender, bleed, and give maſhes; in a few days, mercurial phyſic; the week after, repeat, and finiſh the cure with alteratives. In a weak caſe, mild alterants, and improvement of diet, as already ſtated: if the relic of ſome diſeaſe, alteratives powerful in proportion to ſtrength and long continued; afterwards two months graſs.

WARBLES.

Authors have failed in making a neceſſary diſtinction between thoſe tumours called Warbles which are the conſequence of external preſſure of the ſaddle, and thoſe which ariſe from an internal cauſe; namely, the heat and richneſs of the blood. Theſe appear on the back and buttocks, denoting the want of coolers and attenuants. Salts; if the eyes are inflamed, bleed. Humour-blindneſs is preceded by a ſucceſſion of Warbles, as I have often remarked; they have alſo been formerly ſtyled a flying farcy.

THE MANGE,

In animals, like the Pſory, or Itch in the human ſpecies, is "a contagious prurient erup-" tion," ariſing from a thin, ſerous and acrimonious ſtate of the blood, and an obſtruction in the pores or excretory ducts of the miliary glands, where the perſpirable matter being detained, becomes ichorous and corroſive, and at length, frets its way through the ſkin, making it raw or wrinkled in different parts of the body. Wood, who affirmed that the mange did not proceed from vitiated blood, but from inſects hatched in the furrows of the cuticle, only miſtook the effect for the cauſe, and had not conſidered that corrupted humours were a proper

ſource, or matrix for the generation of ova or eggs. Like the Italian Dr. What-d'ye-call-him, he naturally ſuppoſed the horſe might as well be fly-blown without-ſide as within: nor can I altogether agree with Gibſon who aſſerts, that the mange is ſeldom more than ſkin-deep. My reaſons are, that if you keep a horſe very poorly, he will be mangy; but if you line his inſide well, however you may neglect him externally, he will not generally be mangy, excepting, perhaps, the caſe of your being a lime-carter. A few years ago, on the recommendation of certain ſtable-œconomiſts, and in the teeth of common ſenſe and my own experience, I undertook the wiſe project of feeding labouring cart-horſes upon carrots and oat-ſtraw, and other vegetable traſh, for which I was properly rewarded in a ſhort time, by the trouble of curing them all of the mange. This diſeaſe, or morbid reſult of poverty and filth, ſuffered to arrive at an extreme degree of inveteracy, degenerates into a maraſmus or conſumption, abſolutely incurable.

The mange, if a mere cuticular affection, induced by an external cauſe, or caught by contact of a diſeaſed horſe (which laſt may happen from rubbing againſt ſuch an one, or wearing infected clothes, or ſtanding in an infected ſtall) is ſpeedily cured by external applications, with the aid of a doſe or two of phyſic;

phyſic; but when the diſeaſe originates in the maſs of humours being vitiated, the cure will require a greater length of time, and a larger ſhare of medical aſſiſtance. As to internals, the method of cure is ſo ſimilar to that of ſurfeit, that I have no need to repeat it, nor is any reader ignorant that brimſtone, whether internally, or externally, is here the grand ſpecific.

In a ſlight caſe, ſtrong tobacco infuſion (ſee Index) with one third ſtale urine, ſoaked well into the affected places, may ſucceed; but as an efficacious unguent, take the following: ſtrong mercurial unction, half a pound; brimſtone finely powdered, four ounces; black ſoap, two ounces; crude ſal armoniac, an ounce and half; make the ointment with oil of bays, or of turpentine. Or. Tar, gunpowder finely beaten, black ſoap, and oil of turpentine. In caſes of long ſtanding, where the ulcerations are ſo extremely foul, or if you will, the animalculæ, ſo ſtrong and vigorous as to reſiſt all moderate applications, the following ointment may be ventured: burnt allum and borax, in fine powder, two ounces each; white vitriol and verdigreaſe, powdered, of each, four ounces; put them into a pot over the fire with two pound of honey, or lard and honey, equal parts, ſtirring till they are well incorporated; when cold, add two ounces ſtrong aquafortis. But I ſhould

conceive the firſt ointment equal to almoſt every caſe, which being uſed at night, the ſores if need be, may be waſhed twice a day with the ſublimate water. Take half an ounce of ſublimate, in powder, diſſolve in a pint and half of water. Maſhes, &c. in courſe; clothing and every precaution againſt cold. Finiſh the cure with well waſhing in plenty of ſoap and warm water, rubbing thoroughly dry with linen cloths.

THE FARCY

Is a diſeaſe of the blood-veſſels, whereby their coats and integuments are thickened, and the veins drawn tight like cords, ſmall round hard tumours, in ſize reſembling grapes or berries, and very painful to the touch, ſpringing out along the veins in various parts of the body; theſe not being diſcuſſed, ſuppurate, and degenerate into foul and malignant ulcers. The cauſe exiſts in the blood, either from its too great heat and ſpiſſitude, or its depraved and corrupted ſtate: the remote cauſe, as has already been aſſigned to diſeaſes of the ſame claſs, neglect, or conſtitutional tendency. No doubt but the diſeaſe, in an inveterate ſtate, muſt be infectious, the matter of the ulcers having acquired a very exalted degree of putrid acrimony. The various ſpecies of farcy are not worth a particular deſcription, ſince they are all eſſentially

eſſentially the ſame diſeaſe, differing only in degrees of malignancy, and requiring medicines of the ſame claſs, properly apportioned in ſtrength. The buds or tumours, and painful ſtricture, are a ſufficient characteriſtic of this malady, when local, and in its commencement. I have ſeen the local and ſpurious farcy, mentioned by the old writers, as occaſioned by ſpur-galling; it chiefly happens to ſtarved and hidebound horſes, from acrimonious blood extravaſated, which turns ichorous, and ſpreads a humour along the belly. It is cured by any of the milder applications uſed in the mange, aſſiſted by a certain ſpecific called OATS, exhibited in liberal doſes.

The old farriers had ſuch ſtrange methods of curing diſeaſes, that they ſeem at this time of day, to have been the mere vagaries of madmen. In the farcy, after ſtitching up ſome deviliſh medley in the ears of the animal, they put him to hard labour upon ſtraw and water! And both the ancient and the preſent have committed a great error in this caſe, by overlooking the cauſe, and confining their attention ſolely to the viſible effects: they expect too ſpeedy a cure of a chronic diſeaſe, and inſtead of altering and purifying by degrees the blood, where the diſeaſe is grounded, they are ſolely employed in coring, and cauterizing, and poiſoning the ſkin.

A farcy taken in time, may be cured by diſcuſſing the tumours, and not ſuffering them to come

come to ſuppuration; a confirmation of which I ſaw ſome time ago, in the caſe of a running-horſe, which had been ſurfeited and neglected. When the buds maturate and turn ulcerous, the virulent matter generated is ſoon abſorbed, and putrefaction goes on rapidly, both externally and internally; a general rot enſues, ſometimes with dropſical ſwellings in the belly and legs; the caſe then is incurable.

THE CURE. In the mild farcy, bleed, and next day give an aloetic purge, a mild mercurial one, or ſalts, according to ſta teof body; if much heat, the latter purgative is ever to be preferred. After ſetting of the phyſic (which may be again required, as well as bleeding at intervals) begin and adhere ſtrictly to an alterative courſe (ſee Alterants) until the tumours ſhall be effectually diſperſed, how long ſoever that may be, whether ſix weeks or twelve: bathe them in the interim once a day, with doubly camphorated ſpirits and oil of vitriol, equal quantities, mixed; to one pint of which add two ounces ſpirit of ſal ammoniac. OR. A ſtrong decoction of hemlock, horſeradiſh, and the roots of burdock. Rub the chorded veins every night with an unction of turpentine and ointment of elder, or ſtrong mercurial ointment, if there be no danger of cold; or, Venice turpentine, four ounces; quickſilver, ſix drachms; mix. Conſtant moderate labour, by draught

draught if convenient, will be beneficial. The warm bath is very efficacious in diſſolving the knotty tumors, and cleanſing the ſkin, and ſhould be uſed, where ſuch a convenience can be had, in moſt ſtages of the farcy. Foxall, the farrier in Moorfields, much to his credit, has that kind of accommodation for horſes at his houſe.

The following drink to ſweeten the blood, will be ſerviceable in every ſtage of this diſeaſe, and indeed in many other, where alteratives are required; but as where medicines muſt be long continued, it is exceedingly fatiguing both to the horſe and man, to be conſtantly drenching and balling, there ſeems a neceſſity for giving drinks in the water, and powders in the corn, firſt mixed in a little wetted bran. Take leaves and bark of elder, inner bark of elm, ſharp-pointed dock-root, well cleaned, and madder, half a handfull each; turmeric, and Monk's rhubarb, bruiſed and ſliced; liquorice and ſaſſafras, half an ounce each; roſemary and rue a handful each; boil in three or four pints of water to a quart, in which diſſolve four ounces cremor tartar, and ſweeten with honey. This however, out of form, once for all; ſince few will be at the trouble of theſe decoctions, when nitrated and ſalined water, of pretty nearly the ſame effect, is procured at ſo much leſs trouble.

Should the tumours yield to the preſſure of the

the finger, and yet be ſlow to diſcharge, make inciſion with the knife, and dreſs the ulcers with brandy and ægyptiacum mixed, or a ſalve of crude mercury, black ſoap, and muſtard ſeed. In an inveterate caſe, rub once a day, or two days, into the chorded veins and ſwellings, the following: linſeed oil, half a pint; oil of turpentine, and petre, each three ounces; tincture of euphorbium, half an ounce; oil of origanum, and double aquafortis, half an ounce each; after the ebullition is over, add two ounces Barbadoes tar. Should the orifices of the buds be choked up with proud fleſh, or the ſkin ſo thickened over the ulcers, that the matter cannot find vent, make inciſion with a ſharp pointed hot iron, and touch the proud fleſh with oil of vitriol, aquafortis, or butter of antimony; or with a ſalve of crude mercury incorporated with aquafortis, or waſh with the ſublimate water. As to internals, when the moſt efficacious meaſures are neceſſary, the turbith mineral may be ventured in ſmall doſes, one ſcruple to half a drachm, in cordial ball, or Venice ſoap, every night, or every other night, for a fortnight, then abſtain a week and repeat: or in two drachms of philonium, ſhould the horſe be ſick; or four or five grains of opium or camphor; great care being taken of cold, a very neceſſary caution, both with regard to externals and internals; to which another equineceſſary may be joined, that

of

of avoiding the large blood-veſſels, joints and tendons, in the application of corroſive medicines. Should the mouth become ſore, and the horſe begin to ſlabber, from the uſe of mercurials, deſiſt, until that ſymptom be removed by gentle purges; then proceed with the mercurial courſe, in ſmaller, and more properly adjuſted doſes. Or. Butter of antimony, and bezoar mineral (from Apothecaries Hall) one ounce each, mix and powder, and beat it up with half a pound of cordial ball. Doſe, the ſize of a walnut, on an empty ſtomach, the horſe faſting three hours after, every day for three weeks. Moderate walking exerciſe. Or. *Antehecticum Poterii*, two drachms to half an ounce, every other day, in cordial ball. Or. The moſt powerful alterant (ſee that Chapter) with cinnabar and powdered guiacum. There is no curable ſtage of the diſeaſe which theſe medicines will not effectually touch. To recover the loſt hair, rub the bald places twice a day with an ointment made of honey, ointment of elder, ſpermaceti, and French brandy: the firſt ingredients may be incorporated over a clear fire, and the brandy added afterwards. In a livid and unfavourable appearance of the buds, indicating a cold and languid ſtate of the juices, tending to putridity, omit the deobſtruents, and give the bark, once or twice a day, for four days. Take fineſt Peruvian bark, in powder,

powder, one ounce; ſteel filings, or prepared ſteel, two drachms; powdered gentian, half an ounce; juniper berries, and chamomile, powdered, half an ounce each; ground ginger, a tea-ſpoonfull; ball with any aſtringent ſyrup. Would a ſmall quantity of opium add to the efficacy of this medicine? Or. Cordial ball may be uſed, until ſufficient warmth and vigour be reſtored to the blood, and better colour and diſpoſition to the ulcers. Strength enough being left, the cure may be completed with gentle cleanſing purges. Graſs, that of the ſalt-marſhes preferable.

I have juſt heard, that The Society of Health at Paris, are at preſent employed in making experiments with the internal uſe of the Muriate, and the Carbonate of Barytes, recommended by our Dr. Crawford in Scrophula: in conſequence, they have appointed citizens Huzard and Biron, of the Veterinary Claſs, to try the effects of this active and powerful medicine upon horſes. The reſult has been unfavourable. Some horſes in a confirmed FARCY took two drachms a day each, both of the muriate and the carbonate, which in a very ſhort time ſeemed to make a complete cure: in leſs than three weeks however they died, without diſcovering, on being opened, any ſigns of the action of the medicine. Others have ſince died without any previous tokens of ſickneſs. It is probable the

experiments

experiments were made with too large doſes, and that half a drachm a day, or every other day, might have ſucceeded. Gibſon committed nearly a ſimilar error, by giving only one drachm a day of the turbith, which has been often enough uſed ſince, in ſmall doſes, with all manner of ſafety and ſucceſs, both in farcy and againſt worms. Nor need we be at a loſs for medicines of ſufficient efficacy, either for the ſcrophula or farcy; all we want is moderation and patience in their exhibition; ſpecifics to cure chronic diſeaſes extempore, are not in nature, of courſe not diſcoverable.

The farcy has been compared by Solleyſel, to Syphilis; by Gibſon, to St. Anthony's fire; and by Bracken, to the yaws; with all, and each of which, it certainly bears conſiderable analogy.

PLICA POLONICA,

Is a contagious diſeaſe, affecting the human and other animals, particularly horſes, wolves, and dogs, in a certain diſtrict of Poland, in which the hair is ſaid to become alive and bleed. It is chiefly confined to infancy and youth. Previous ſymptoms, ſpaſms, pains in various parts, ſlow fever, and diſeaſed eyes; all which ceaſe on the irruption of the *Plica*. The hair grows rapidly, and there is a copious ſecretion

cretion of mucus at the roots, by which it is inextricably matted together. A fetid ſmell is emitted with ſwarms of vermin. The Poles never attempt any remedy, ſuppoſing the diſeaſe to be a ſalutary effort of nature, to diſburthen the body of a load of peccant and dangerous humours.—*Mancheſter Memoirs.* I ſhould ſuppoſe bleeding, antimonial, and mercurial alteratives, with the warm bath, muſt be the proper remedies, if any; and that to their neglect of medicine, the Poles owe not only the continuance, which it ſeems is ſometimes for years, but even the exiſtence of this filthy diſeaſe.

THE DROPSY,

Both univerſal or diffuſed, called *anaſarca;* or local and encyſted, ſtyled *tympanum*, or *aſcites*, happens to horſes; proceeding from a ſluggiſh, poor, and watery blood, the conſequence of ſome previous diſeaſe, or of neglect and unwholeſome keep, either within doors or without; as feeding entirely on grains, waſhy latter-graſs, remaining abroad in continual rains, and the like. Different parts of the body will be covered with ſoft, inelaſtic, or oedamatous ſwellings; but the belly, ſheath, and legs, are ſometimes very hard, and diſtended to a great ſize. Theſe laſt muſt be ſuperficially ſcarified with a ſharp knife, and the water evacuated.

Next

Next give a purge or two of aloes and jalap. Strengthening medicines if neceſſary. Improved diet and care.

In an obſtinate caſe, draſtic purges are ſpecific, and a drachm of gamboge (or proper quantity of ſcammony) may be given with an ounce fine aloes, made up with cordial ball and ſyrup of buckthorn; or for want of cordial ball, with ſaffron, cloves, nutmegs, and oil of aniſeed, working off the purge with as little water as poſſible. The gamboge ſhould be firſt rubbed with a little fine oil, and then powdered exceeding well in a mortar, or bits of it may ſtick among the folds of the guts, and cauſe intolerable griping pains. Give between the purges every night, or night and morning, a pint of the following drink; black hellebore, freſh gathered, two pound, waſh, bruiſe and boil it in ſix quarts of water to four; ſtrain off the liquor, and put two quarts white wine (or fine old beer) upon the remaining hellebore, and infuſe warm forty-eight hours, ſhaking often; ſtrain off the wine, mix it with the water, and keep it corked up for uſe. The purge may be exhibited once in ten days, repeating it as often as neceſſary, and the cure completed with reſtoratives, bark, ſteel, and bitters, or chalybeate beer, as before directed.

When the waters are lodged in the abdomen, or between the inner rim of the belly and guts,

then the diſeaſe is called A TYMPANY, becauſe the belly ſounds like a drum. An infuſion of *crocus metallorum*, or *vinum benedictum*, is ſaid to be a poweful ſpecific in this caſe. But tapping, the moſt efficacious remedy, is neither difficult nor dangerous, in horſes and cattle. It is ſcarce neceſſary to obſerve, that cattle ſhould be allowed little or no drink in this diſeaſe, according to the late John Weſtley's direction in his Primitive Phyſic; whoſe cure for the dropſy, of biſcuit and raiſins, with total abſtinence from liquids, was borrowed from Harman Boerhaave. Of dropſy in the cheſt, I have already ſaid a few words, which was quite ſufficient, ſince no one has ever pretended to cure it.

WORMS.

The only pathognomic, or peculiar ſymptom of worms, is the horſe's rubbing his tail often, without any apparent humour or eruption; the general ſigns are ſimilar to thoſe which denote griping pains. Farther, a horſe troubled with worms will eat heartily, and yet be always lean, and out of condition, his coat ſtaring as if ſurfeited; a ſickly paleneſs of the mouth and tongue, and cadaverous ſmell; he will be tucked up in his flanks, and occaſionally heave much, turning his head now and then towards them, and ſtriking his belly with his hinder feet. The dung will be often mixed with a yellowiſh

yellowiſh matter, like melted ſulphur, or be otherwiſe diſcoloured, foul, and fetid. Worms, and the ſlimy ſpawn of them, will be ſometimes ejected, but not always.

It is laughable to obſerve, how induſtriouſly all our authors contend againſt equivocal generation; which, in good truth, I am neither prepared nor diſpoſed to defend at this moment. *Ova*, for the neceſſary purpoſe of worm-hatching, muſt be received into the body, at the one end or the other, at any rate. Thus the learned Dr. Gaſpari, as Valliſnieri gravely aſſures us, one day by chance, and mere accident, enjoyed the rare and uncommon opportunity of witneſſing the forcible entry of a large fly, after a number of ineffectual attempts, into the anus of his mare, feeding in the field, for the purpoſe of finding a warm and convenient birth to depoſit her eggs. Alas! had the good Doctor been an adept in the noble Engliſh practice of figging, experimentally convinced of the contractile force of the *ſphincter ani* in a horſe, and the difficulty of penetration, he would ſurely have found another paſſage into the body for thoſe eggs, which he was determined, at all events, ſhould be there carried and depoſited. Whence come the parental *ova*, Doctor, of thoſe maggots which are hatched in a foul and neglected ulcer, or a chandler's noſe? How much eaſier it is to ſay, that all putreſcent

animal fluids ſpontaneouſly produce *animalcula*, and ſave ourſelves the trouble of playing at 'I ſpy' with flies. Putrefaction and reproduction, death and life, life and death, are vicarious: they ſerve to form nature's *metempſychoſis*, or merry-go-round; all we know, all we can know, and therefore all we ought to know: they who dream that more is, and ought to be known, may, as has always been the good faſhion, firſt diſpute the point, and then fight it out; I deſire not to be of the number of the combatants, I beg to be excuſed, and only to have permiſſion to laugh, whilſt they diſpute and fight.

The remote cauſe of worms, is a colluvies of indigeſted matter, which for want of timely evacuants, putrifies; or a natural prediſpoſition in the animal fluids to putrefaction. I have known many people to whom it is as natural conſtantly to produce worms, as hair, and who are yet always taking worm medicines. The defect is generally inherited by their children.

In the CURE, mercurials alone are to be depended upon, and as in proper hands, they are perfectly ſafe, even for human infants, it is truly unprofitable trouble to uſe any other means. There is a notion among horſemen, that common aloes, from the draſtic roughneſs of its operation, is a more potent vermifuge than the ſuccotrine; it is groundleſs, as I know by

by experience; and by the opinion of one, whoſe experience to mine, in this particular caſe, muſt have been in the proportion of one hundred to five, at leaſt; I mean Gibſon. Riverius ſays, that OIL will ſuffocate all kinds of worms; if ſo, it ſurely deſerves notice as an anthelmintic.

OIL GLYSTER. Prepare a ſtrong decoction, or infuſion in boiling water, of tobacco, ſavin, wormwood, rue, garlic, and coralline, if the latter can be procured; to one pint of this, add a pint of linſeed oil, and inject the mixture, blood warm, the laſt thing at night. Repeat it or not, at diſcretion, at two o'clock next day; and at night give the horſe two drachms calomel, in very fine powder, made up with cordial ball, or for want of that, with powdered aniſeeds, and a little ginger and oil; or with diapente. In the morning give a purge with fine aloes, jalap, and myrrh, balled up with hard ſoap, and rectified oil of amber; mild or ſtrong according to circumſtances, particularly with relation to the effects of the glyſters and the mercury. This phyſic being repeated every ten days, with the glyſters intermediately at pleaſure; the courſe will eradicate and ſweep away the whole generation of worms, together with that collection of foul materials of which they are made. If the calomel ſhould be found too mild, the more powerful preparations of

mercury may be ſubſtituted, as diagridium or turbith; ſcammony alſo is very efficacious. Clothe well, and beware of cold. Should the ſubject be too much reduced, and the powers of the ſtomach debilitated by the neceſſary force of thoſe powerful ſpecifics, recruit with bark, bitters, and ſteel, as before repeated; or two drachms to half an ounce ſteel filings, in the corn, for ſome weeks; or graſs. Where the time and attendance cannot be ſpared for the above regular courſe, it has always been uſual to give worm-powders, or other alteratives, in the horſe's feeds; and æthiops has been the common vermifuge baſis from the earlieſt days of Gibſon: Captain Burdon was bold enough to order two ounces of it for a doſe. I know not how, or by what accident, it has happened, but the æthiops has often deceived me, particularly of late, paſſing forth of the inteſtines unchanged. I would therefore recommend a trial of alkalized or calcined mercury, half a drachm, to a drachm of which, finely powdered, may be given every other day, mixed up with a large ſpoonful of powdered guiacum, turmeric, and aniſeeds, and continued a fortnight to a month, the uſual care being taken of cold, and warm water given if poſſible; the glyſters alſo may be uſed. This method is very ſuitable for draught horſes.

According to the old farriers, there are four different

different ſpecies of worm generated in the body of a horſe. "Little ſhort worms, with great "red heads, and long ſmall white tails, called "BOTTS. Short thick worms with black hard "heads, all of a bigneſs, like a man's finger, "called TRUNCHEONS. Worms from ſix to "eighteen inches in length, and as thick as a "man's finger, which are, the ROTUNDI, or "EARTHWORMS; and red MAW-WORMS, re-"ſembling wood-lice, but with fewer feet, "having thick, ſhort, ſharp heads, velveted on "the back like a bat, and made up of ſeveral "folds." Theſe laſt, it is aſſerted, will perforate the ſtomach of a horſe, and kill him: but it is not yet determined, I believe, whether worms can really exiſt in the ſtomach of a living animal; that they are found there after death, every one knows, but Bracken thinks it probable they make their way thither from the *duodenum*, after the vital functions have ceaſed.

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CHAP. XII.

ON THE DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS, REINS, AND BLADDERS—CHOLIC—BURSTENNESS—FALLING OF THE FUNDAMENT—GONORRHÆA, AND MATTERING OF THE PENIS—FALLING OF THE PENIS—VENEMOUS BITES—SWALLOWING OF LEACHES, HEN'S DUNG, &c.

I KNOW not that horſes are ſubject to nephritic diſeaſe, or to the obſtruction of the ureters by ſabulous, or calcarious matter: the maladies of this ſpecies, to which they are liable, are ſtrains of the reins and kidneys, and ſometimes ulcerations in the latter; ſymptomatic ſtranguary; iſchury, or ſuppreſſion of urine, and diabetes, or its immoderate flux.

I deſire to make a few minutes pauſe here, to note a curious paſſage in Bracken, vol. i. p. 254. The doctor ſays, " three or four times I " have in my practice (when the ſphincter " muſcle, or neck of the bladder, has been ſo " ſwelled, that it would not admit of paſſing " the inſtrument) cut into the very body of the " bladder above the *Os Pubis*, and let the " urine flow out that way, for a month or ſix " weeks,

" weeks, till ſuch time as the inflammation, " &c. about the neck of the bladder, was quite " diſperſed and gone; after which the people " piſſed as well and ſound as ever, and ſome " of them are yet living; though it is ten " years ſince I performed ſuch operation upon " them."

Now Bracken challenges the invention of this operation, as " a method never before " practiſed, nor even mentioned in any an- " cient or modern author." I have read of the ancient operation of Lithotomy, deſcribed by *Celſus*; of the uſe of the Catheter, by *Romanis* and *Marianus*; of the high and low operations; of the improvement of *Frere Jaques*, and the latter improvements upon him, by various eminent men; but of the operation through the abdominal muſcles, immediately above the *os pubis* (or high operation) as deſcribed by Bracken, I only find it ſaid to be a late diſcovery, with no notice whatever of the inventor's name. I have ſomewhere read, that the famous Lord Peterborough underwent the high operation, and nearly about the ſame period in which Bracken practiſed it. Profeſſional critics can no doubt ſet me right, as to the truth of Bracken's pretenſion. Granting him really the inventor, it is not difficult to conceive that his cotemporaries, and even ſome writers ſince, would preſerve an affected

ſilence

ſilence concerning him; for he was generally treated with contempt by the faſhionable phyſicians of the day, as a vulgar provincial doctor, infinitely beneath their notice. I have ſeen in ſome medical work, a catalogue of veterinary writers, with the names of Gibſon and Bartlet, without any mention of Bracken, to whom the two former were ſo much obliged; but Bracken was an honeſt, and good phyſician, and a uſeful and ſolid writer, although he poſſeſſed neither the genius, nor the imagination of "our Jock."

I have formerly laboured under the horrors of the iſchury near three weeks myſelf; at the ſame period a poor man in my neighbourhood (a ſtony diſtrict, where nephritic complaints were frequent) died of a ſuppreſſion of urine; at the concluſion of the *Zoonomia*, Dr. Darwin adverts to the danger and ill ſucceſs of various efforts to diſcharge the water, in inability to empty the bladder, and recommends the injection of crude mercury into the urethra, which might by its weight open a paſſage; now granting the facility and ſafety of the operation deſcribed by Bracken, it ſurely deſerves the reconſideration of the faculty: I ſaw no reaſon at the time to doubt, that the poor man above-mentioned might have been ſaved by it.

It is curious to compare the flimſy elegance of

of the late Dr. Auſtin's book, where he attempts to prove, that nephritic diſeaſes have not an urinary origin, with the vulgar and homeſpun, but ſound and convincing reaſoning of Bracken's *Lithiaſis Anglicana.* I mention the latter tract, for the purpoſe of introducing from it, an anecdote of a gentleman from the North, who was always afflicted with calcarious complaints in his own country; but coming up to London, was cured by the town beer; and after awhile, intending to return home, he was ſeized with his old complaint from the uſe of the country beer, before he had completed any conſiderable part of his journey; on which he put back, and ever after reſided in London, free from gravel or ſtone; and I have known the ſame thing to happen myſelf. London Porter, and London Fine Ale, are the moſt ſalubrious of all malt liquors; the latter, when genuine and unadulterated, and as it ever ought to be, the neat produce of Thames water, the white malt of Ware, and Farnham hops, has been eſteemed by many wine-drinkers of rank, as a rich and generous liquor; it is in perfection at ſix and nine months old, and is ſpecific in conſumptions, particularly thoſe of women.

Let us return to the ſtable. Strains in the kidneys, proceed from violent exertion and overloading. The ſymptoms, difficulty of ſtaling,

ing, and frequent attempts; thick, foul, or bloody urine; faintneſs, loſs of ſtomach, and deadneſs of the eyes; inability to back. Theſe injuries being neglected, it is ſaid the horſe will in time become ſurfeited from the imperfect ſecretion of urine, the kidneys being diſeaſed; and that the affair may end in glanders and conſumption. Bleed according to the degree of fever, and the condition of the horſe. A rowel in the belly. Diuretic glyſters, ſee p. 292. Gum Arabic in the water, and half an ounce of ſweet ſpirit of nitre in it, once a day, for a few days. Gentle walking exerciſe, led. The following ball, twice a day: Lucatellus balſam, one ounce; ſpermaceti, ſix drachms; ſal prunel, half an ounce; mix with ſyrup of marſhmallows, or honey, and aniſeed powder. Should that not ſucceed, make trial of —Balſam of Capivi, or Straſburgh turpentine, one ounce; Venice or Caſtile Soap, one ounce; nitre, ſix drachms; myrrh powdered, two drachms; ball as before, and waſh it down with a horn or two, of marſhmallow decoction ſweetened, or warm gruel. Decoctions of juniper berries, marſhmallows, parſley, and liquorice roots, in which gum is diſſolved, and ſweetened with honey; doſe a pint or two, with a gill of fine old Holland Geneva; in caſe of much fever the ſpirit to be omitted. The quantity, freedom, and colour of the urine, will

will determine the ſtate of body, or the horſe's amendment. Sometimes a cure is very tedious and protracted, but it is infinitely ſafer to attend patiently nature's good time, and the operation of mild medicines, than to attempt any haſty and forcible meaſures. The horſe being ſtrong may have gentle phyſic after the cure, otherwiſe ſhould be ſent to graſs. Chronic, or neglected caſes of this kind, are abſolutely incurable in the ſtable; the ſame may be ſaid of ſtrains in the loins, which, if very bad, will require at leaſt A TWELVEMONTH'S run, to be thoroughly recovered.

For affection of the kidneys from CATARRH, ſee that Chapter.

For BLOODY URINE, from falls or bruiſes, from over ſtraining at a hard leap, or a hard ran heat in racing, or any other cauſe; bleed, and give two quarts of milk, or whey, warm, with a gill of peppermint-water, and a ſtrong decoction of two ounces juniper berries; Iriſh ſlate, two drachms; ſweeten with honey, or ſyrup of quinces. If the drink be deſired more efficacious, repeat and continue it once a day, with the addition of one ounce to two of Armenian bole in powder; and two drachms, to half an ounce, Japan earth. OR. The following reſtringent ball twice a day; Peruvian bark, half an ounce to one ounce. Lucatellus balſam, or balſam of Peru, half an ounce; Iriſh

ſlate

ſlate two drachms; elixir vitriol, one drachm; ball with conſerve of red roſes, and ſyrup of poppies. Or. A decoction of logwood and oak bark, ſweetened with honey, doſe one pint.

In a ſuppreſſion of urine from inflammation, *paralyſis* or numbneſs, or other defect in the kidneys, whence obſtruction, and inability to perform the office of ſecerning the urine from the blood, the body of the horſe will appear diſtended, although his bladder be empty, and he make no motion to ſtale; at leaſt very little water will paſs: in a few days, the legs will be ſwelled, and the tumefaction of the body encreaſed to a great degree, with perhaps eruptions and blotches, from the retention of the urinous ſalts in the blood; this caſe demands inſtant relief, and carries with it an apology for vigorous meaſures, ſince the moſt powerful ſtimulants, have to my knowledge proved for a conſiderable time ineffectual. A horſe remaining in this ſtate, the ſecretion of urine being repreſſed two days, may be looked upon as loſt.

If the ſtrength of the horſe will bear it, open ſeveral veins in different parts, drawing to the quantity of from one to two quarts of blood. Immediately give a glyſter, and follow it up with a ball, the ball to be repeated three times in the day, if needed; and the glyſter

at

at diſcretion; ſhould there be a partial and gradual amendment, they may be repeated in a milder form, or ſubſtitutes choſen from amongſt thoſe forms before preſcribed.

The GLYSTER. Succotrine aloes from one to two ounces, in exceeding fine powder; jalap, two drachms to half an ounce. Nitre well beaten two to four ounces. Juniper and bay-berries bruiſed, one handful each; Venice turpentine, two ounces; beat up with the yolks of two eggs. Infuſe in one to two quarts marſh-mallow decoction, or thin gruel, adding one pint linſeed oil. The BALL. Juniper berries pounded, one ounce; ſuccotrine aloes, and ſal prunel, ſix drachms each; ethereal oil of turpentine, from two to four drachms; camphor one drachm; ball with liquorice powder, oil of amber, or preferably with chymical oil of juniper, and honey: make it into two or three balls, for one doſe. OR: in a deſperate caſe, cantharides from one ſcruple to half a drachm; camphor diſſolved in oil of almonds, one drachm to two; nitre and Venice ſoap each an ounce; mix with ſyrup of marſhmallows. But I muſt own I have never ſeen any good effect in the caſe, from the internal uſe of cantharides. Warm gum arabic water, and ſcalded pollard, if the horſe have any appetite. Lead out well clothed, and walk gently half an hour, the weather permitting. When the kidneys

kidneys are ſound, mercurial phyſic will ſometimes ſucceed. After the cure, ſtrengthen the kidneys with bark and ſteel, if there remain ſymptoms of debility. If an external application ſhould be thought neceſſary, lay the following CATAPLASM, ſpread on a double coarſe flannel, upon the loins of the horſe, and bind it on with a warm covering, previouſly rubbing well into the parts two portions oil of turpentine, and one of oil of amber. Garlic pounded, and horſe-radiſh, *q. s.* Muſtard ſeed, one pint; camphor, two ounces; as much green ſoap as will make a plaiſter of due conſiſtence: it may be renewed every two days.

The ISCHURY (for which the ſtrangury, although in common uſe, is an improper term) often afflicts aged horſes, or ſuch as are hard worked, and hardly uſed. It is an obſtruction at the neck of the bladder, preventing the courſe of the urine, or ſuffering it to paſs only in drops; and ariſes either from an inordinate diſtenſion, and conſequent loſs of elaſticity and force, in the *detruſores urinæ*, with a paralyſis of the *ſphincter* muſcle, from the horſe being driven on, and forced to retain his water too long, and other cauſes of debility; or a collection of matter derived from diſeaſed kidneys, or the determination of catarrh or fever. The ſymptoms are obvious, diſtended flanks, ſtraddling, with frequent ineffectual motions to ſtale;

ſtale; but the horſe will ſometimes lie down on his back and roll, as in a colic.

In the CURE of this malady, it is a general rule, to which I know of no exception, that all draſtic diuretics (at leaſt in any conſiderable doſes) ſhould be religiouſly avoided; ſince they do but excite a more copious ſecretion of urine from the kidneys, and of courſe increaſe the diſtention of the bladder, its inflammation, or the numbneſs and debility of its muſcles. In a caſe of deſperate neceſſity, I ſhould ſuppoſe no meaſure could be ſo effectual, or ſo ſafe, as an evacuation of the urine by the proper ſurgical operation, which by emptying the bladder, would give opportunity for the recovery of its tone; otherwiſe, bleeding, tender care, and the milder diuretics, with opiates continued. To eſtabliſh a cure, two months graſs, or ſtraw-yard.

The DIABETES in a horſe, is either the fatal termination of ſome chronic diſeaſe, or the ſign of a conſtitution too far gone to be worth the attempt at a recovery; but if ſuch an attempt be meditated, it muſt be eſſayed by the long-continued uſe of reſtringents, agglutinants and balſamics—Barks, gums, balſams, boles, chalk, logwood, and lime-water. Dry nouriſhing diet, with beans and rice.

Caſting my eye over a Review lately, I ſaw a very excellent practical obſervation of a cer-

tain phyſician (ſurely Dr. S. Walker?) treated with unmerited ſlight. The doctor remarked, that the dread of a diabetes, during their frequent nervous emiſſions of urine, was a common hallucination with many hypochondriac patients: I can vouch for the truth of that remark.

THE COLIC, GRIPES, OR FRET.

For the CURE of this troubleſome, and ſometimes dangerous complaint, eminent men, both under the ancient and new order of things, have invented extraordinary remedies. Leonard Maſgal aſſures us (p. 242) that "the colic "in the belly of beaſts is ſoon put away, by "beholding a gooſe or a duck on the water "ſwimming." Markham preſcribes a glyſter of hen's dung, nitre, and ſtrong vinegar! and the late great ſtate phyſician, Citizen Marat, who alſo was in the habits of preſcribing for the body natural, and loved a radical cure to his heart, being one day ſeverely griped, (as Briſſot tells us) ran all over Paris, in ſearch of a ſurgeon, who would undertake the cutting his guts open, in order to look for the colic! Unfortunately that conſummate operatrix, Charlotte Corday, had not arrived.

I ſuſpect authors may have run their diviſions upon this diſeaſe in horſes, ſomewhat too fine; it may, however, be divided into the common

mon FRET or GRIPES, the FLATULENT, the RED or INFLAMMATORY, and the BILIOUS COLIC; of the occaſional exiſtence of this latter, in an animal ſo frequently ſubject to biliary obſtruction, no doubt need be entertained.

The primary cauſe of a common fit of the gripes in a horſe, is nine times out of ten, an accumulation of indurated excrement in the inteſtines; for independent of the ſolid obſtruction ſo occaſioned, the uſual proximate cauſes would ſeldom have power to work thoſe ſerious effects we witneſs; thus in a horſe, the colon of which was not previouſly infarcted and plugged up, the effect of a ſlight cold thrown upon the bowels, or the devouring a few new beans, would probably paſs off with a very moderate ſtruggle from nature.

The ſymptoms ſcarce need deſcription; cold dew at the ear-roots and flanks; frequent pointing to the ſeat of complaint, and a deſire to lie down and roll; ſudden riſing and great agitation; the greatneſs of the agitation, or rather jactitation, no convulſions exiſting, ſeems to form the diagnoſtic in all colicky complaints.

The CURE requires prompt and vigorous meaſures, and plenty of aſſiſtants to conduct them. Looſe ſtable, or out-houſe, well littered down, that the horſe may have room to roll himſelf, without injury. Clothe with warm dry clothes. Man to attend the head, that it

be not beat againſt the pavement or wall; another or two to rub the belly well at every quiet interval; a more effectual help than generally imagined, to diſperſe the wind. Bleed, if poſſible in the neck veins, not only to aſcertain the quantity, but becauſe ſurely it cannot be irrational to ſuppoſe ſuch a ſubſtance as blood, improper to be taken into the ſtomach, under the circumſtances. Whilſt medical remedies are preparing, walk the horſe about briſkly in hand, one following with a whip; or keep him to the jog-trot, but drive him not faſt, or harraſs him, on any pretence, which has ruptured the belly of many a horſe, and which at leaſt often inflames and exaſperates the ſymptoms. Back-rake with a ſmall hand well oiled, and give the common gruel GLYSTER, with half a pint of oil, and a large handful of ſalt: immediately poured down by the mouth, half a pint of Holland's geneva, rum or brandy, and a like quantity of ſweet oil mixed, or a little diluted with thin gruel, if thought too ſtrong; keep the horſe on his legs, and exerciſe him forthwith. If to be obtained ſoon, and demanded by the exigence, add to the glyſter, four to ſix ounces of Glauber's ſalts. Or, of tincture of jalap, or of ſenna, two ounces. Or beſt aloes in very fine powder, half an ounce. And to the drink, three or four ounces ſyrup of buckthorn. Or, *Elixir Proprietatis*, or *Tinctura ſacra*. Caſtor oil may

may be uſed inſtead of olive. A notched onion may be thruſt up the fundament; or an onion and a piece of ſoap the ſize of an egg, beat up together into a ſoft bolus, with a pinch or two of pepper; afterwards a glyſter of black ſoap, one ounce to a pint warm water. Should ſuppreſſed perſpiration thrown on the bowels be among the cauſes, (ſee Colds) the warm ſeeds ginger, caſtor, and camphor, ſhould make part of both the drinks and glyſters. For a large cart-horſe, where wind is not the predominant ſymptom, and no appearance of cold, the following drink: Gin, brandy, or rum, and ſweet oil, one pint each, mix with the ſolution of ſix ounces Glauber's ſalts, repeat in two or three hours, warm gruel in the interim. The repetition of theſe muſt be left to the judgment of the practitioner; but plenty of warm gruel and warm water, ſhould ever, in theſe caſes, be at immediate call, as ſometimes the throwing in two or three gallons of theſe at both ends, and at proper intervals, will do the needful with little or no aſſiſtance from the apothecary. Bracken cautions againſt the common practice of farriers, who give large quantities of Venice treacle, mithridate or diaſcordium, both by way of drink and clyſter, upon loaded inteſtines; thereby locking up the cauſe of the diſeaſe ſtill more ſecurely: he compares it to firing a piſtol into the horſe's fundament, by

way of clearing all obſtructions at once. Marſhes. A week after the cure, a gentle purge or two.

The FLATULENT, or WIND COLIC, is known by great fullneſs and tenſion of the belly, from rarefaction of the air contained in the inteſtines; *borborigmi*, or rumbling of the guts, diſcharges of wind, and frequently ſtrangury, occaſioned by the fullneſs and preſſure of the ſtreight gut upon the neck of the bladder; this laſt is denoted by the horſe rolling upon his back, and by frequent ineffectual attempts to ſtale. Crib-biters, from conſtantly ſucking in large quantities of air, are particularly ſubject to windy gripes.

The intention of CURE plainly conſiſts in the ſpeedy exhibition of volatile and carminative, of diuretic, and laxative medicines, which ought to be given both in the form of glyſter, and by the mouth. Ball. Straſburgh, or Venice turpentine, juniper berries, and carraway ſeeds pounded, each half an ounce; fine aloes well powdered, two drachms; ſal prunel, one ounce; chymical oil of juniper, one drachm, ſalt of tartar, two drachms; ball with honey and hard ſoap. Waſh down with a pint or two warm gruel. OR. The following drink, Caſtile ſoap and nitre, one ounce each; juniper berries, and carraway ſeeds, half an ounce each; ginger powdered, two drachms; Venice

turpentine

turpentine, diſſolved with the yolk of an egg, ſix drachms; tincture of ſenna, an ounce or two. Mix with warm ale and treacle. Repeat. GLYSTER as before with the addition of carminatives: camomile flowers, two handfuls; aniſe, coriander, and fennel ſeeds, one ounce each; long pepper half an ounce. The following herbs are preſcribed, but as in general there may be a difficulty in obtaining them, I have ſubſtituted water-gruel, which, in truth, I have always found an excellent ſubſtitute. Mallows, pellitory, elder-flowers, the herb mercury, mullein, bear's-breech, &c.

St. Bel remarks on the difficulty of hitting the critical moment, proper for the exhibition of opium in long continued pains; and of regulating the quantum of the doſe. He pretends, that ſhould the opiate be too weak, the pains will be enraged; if too powerful, that it will haſten death. Bracken determines the proper time for the uſe of opiates to be, after the cauſe of the diſeaſe ſhall have been removed by lenient purgatives and clyſters; when the former are requiſite to complete the cure, by appeaſing pain, allaying the tumult of the bowels, and obviating ſuperpurgation or flux. Proper forms will be found after the next ſpecies of colic, ſince they may be neceſſary in both.

The INFLAMMATORY OR RED COLIC, is ſuppoſed to originate in ſome internal injury; it is that ſpecies with which race-horſes are ſometimes afflicted, as St. Bel aſſerts, from the immoderate uſe of purgatives, which act as cauſtics upon the nervous fibres of the ſtomach and inteſtines, and even irritate the extremities of the ſmall blood veſſels to that degree, as to cauſe them to contract, and thereby impede the courſe of the blood. How far that writer is correct in his ætiology of this diſeaſe, I am unable to aſcertain, but I have often enough ſeen the colics of race-horſes, a double example of which I recollect in one day, and both horſes were cured by an ignorant country-fellow; that is to ſay, the man cut their mouths, poured ſome ſtuff which ſmelt very hot and ſtrong, down their throats, and flurried them up and down dreadfully, beating them with cudgels. One of them had a very narrow eſcape, but thanks to the doctor, or to the doctreſs Nature, he lingered through it. They had both run that day, and their diſeaſe ſeemed to me to proceed from inanition, and having been kept too long without ſuſtenance, deſiccation of the juices of the ſtomach and inteſtines, and inflammation from hard-ſtraining.

The common SYMPTOMS, in this ſpecies are violent; the horſe diſcovers pain if his flanks

flanks or belly are preſſed. The conjunctive membrane of the eye appears much inflamed, the anus the ſame, and of a bright red colour; the high degree of inflammation is chiefly occaſioned by the acrimony of the bile. There is an appearance of looſeneſs in the beginning, a little dung is ejected with a hot ſcalding water; ſometimes a burning fever; and the progreſs of inflammation ſo rapid, that a mortification in the abdomen takes place in a few hours.

Bleed as largely as you can with ſafety. In the urgency of the caſe, and before medicines can be obtained, gruel and ſweet oil, or even warm water and oil mixed, may be given at either end. Caſtor oil, one quarter to half a pint; nitre, two ounces; camphor, one drachm; make the drink with gruel, or decoction of febrifuge herbs and honey. Repeat, or ſubſtitute within an hour or two: Turkey rhubarb in powder, half an ounce; diapente, one ounce; ſalt of tartar, two drachms; ginger grated, and oil of juniper, one drachm each; ball with oil of amber. A GLYSTER of the herbs camomile, mallows, &c. two ounces lenitive electuary. The following PURGING DRINK, if neceſſary: Senna, two ounces; liquorice root, one ounce; ſalt of tartar, two drachms; carraway and juniper berries bruiſed, one ounce each; boil in a quart of water to a pint, ſtrain and add two

ounces

ounces lenitive electuary, with good old white wine half a pint. St. Bel recommends *Pulvis Jacobus* every ſix hours; an antimonial preparation which I have been unable to find. Should a tendency to mortification appear, it muſt be reſiſted by bark and wine, both in drinks and glyſters. The ANODYNE DRINK AND BALL. The Drink: White wine, or fine beer, one quart, diſſolve in it the ſize of an egg, common cordial ball, and one ounce Venice treacle (add or omit according to circumſtances) one hundred drops laudanum, and the ſame number tincture of caſtor. Stir well, and give it warm. OR. The ball. Diapente, one ounce; diaſcordium, half an ounce; myrrh, two drachms; ball with liquorice powder, and two drachms oil of amber.

I know of no diſtinct or peculiar method of treating the HEPATIC, OR BILIOUS COLIC; it is generally inflammatory, and requires ſimilar treatment with the above, regard being had to the medicines preſcribed in the Yellows. The colic produced by hair-balls, bezoar-ſtones, and concretions in general, is ſaid to be mortal.

BURSTENNESS OR RUPTURE.

Ruptures proceed from ſtrains in labour, high and difficult leaps, particularly with heavy weights, kicks; from being ſtaked, or gored by oxen,

oxen, and various other accidents. Gibſon ſays, he has known inſtances of the belly being ruptured from too deep an inciſion for the purpoſe of a rowel.

In a rupture, a portion of the *Omentum* or caul, or of the guts themſelves, is forced through the muſcles of the belly at the navel, or through the rings into the *ſcrotum* or cod. The tumour, when not too large, will return on being preſſed, as if it were merely flatulent, and the rupture or chaſm may be felt. It is eaſy to conceive, that ſuch a defect is incurable, except poſſibly in a very ſlight caſe, and a very young ſubject; the intention muſt be to palliate, to render the animal as uſeful as poſſible, and as comfortable to itſelf. In a recent caſe, bleed, and give emollient and oily glyſters, boiled barley, malt maſhes, nitrated water. Foment twice a day with camphorated ſpirits and vinegar warm, and poultice with oatmeal, oil, and vinegar. Uſe the reſtringent embrocation (ſee Index) occaſionally, ever afterwards; but nothing would be ſo effectual as a ſuſpenſory bandage, could that be contrived. Should there be an external wound, and the ſkin be divided, in courſe, the protruded inteſtine muſt be carefully returned, and the wound healed with ſpirituous and balſamic application. I have ſome obſcure recollection of a complete cure in that caſe.

ON FALLING OF THE FUNDAMENT.

This may be occaſioned by long continued looſeneſs or ſcouring, and horſes of a lax and waſhy conſtitution are moſt ſubject to it. It is produced by long journeys, or hard labour with inſufficient nouriſhment. The defect is frequent with over-driven pigs, which I have often attempted to cure, with very ill ſucceſs. Solleyſel ſays, it was ſometimes brought on horſes, in his time, by docking.

In the CURE no time ought to be loſt. If the gut deſcend to any great length, and be much ſwelled and inflamed, waſh with warm milk and *aqua vegeto* equal parts, and ſuſpend it; repeat the waſhing, and when the inflammation is abated, anoint with oil of roſes, camomile, or dill, and a ſmall quantity of Friar's balſam, and gently with a warm linen cloth, return the gut to its proper place. Bathe the fundament frequently with the following mixture: Red Port wine and camphorated ſpirits, a quarter of a pint each; Goulard's extract, forty-drops. A compoſition of oak-bark, flour, honey, and turpentine, applied frequently to the fundament. Maſhes of malt, or corn and bran, and the animal kept very quiet, with the moſt gentle uſage. Should the gut not remain, or fall down in exerciſe, and ſhrink up again in the ſtable, it is the ſign of a fiſtula,

and

and the only remedy is excision; which muſt be performed with a red-hot knife, a ligature being previouſly made. The wound healed, a pretty long run at graſs or ſtraw-yard; previous to which, it will not be ſafe to work the horſe.

GONORRHÆA, MATTERING, AND FALL OF THE PENIS.

A ſtallion weakened by too much covering, will ſometimes have a thin white diſcharge. Bathe the teſticles with the reſtringent embrocation at night, and waſh them in the morning with cold water, rubbing them dry with a cloth. Or. Ride him up to the belly in water every morning the firſt thing.

A STRENGTHENING BALL. Balſam of Capivi, olibanum, and maſtic powdered, each two drachms, bole armoniac, half an ounce; ball with honey and liquorice powder, and give it night and morning; afterwards once a day, as long as wanted. Should there be a foul ichorous diſcharge from chafing or ulceration, externally or internally, firſt waſh well with ſoap and water warm, which it may be alſo uſeful to inject. Apply the following, milk-warm, to any excoriation or ſore, with a ſoft rag or ſponge: lime-water, one quart; ſugar of lead, half an ounce. Mix. In caſe of fungous

gous fleſh, half an ounce of vitriol may be added. Or. Liniment of turpentine, and honey of roſes. For an injection, take balſam of capivi, half an ounce, with the yolk of an egg, add lime water, half a pint; honey of roſes, two ounces. The yard being much inflamed and ſwelled, foment as often as neceſſary, with leaves of mallows and marſhmallows, camomile flowers, melilot, and fumitory, each three handfuls; roſemary, wild thyme, ſouthern-wood, and elder-flowers, each two handfuls; juniper and laurel-berries bruiſed, each four ounces. Boil in eight quarts of water to ſix. Strain and foment with two flannels, by turns, as warm as convenient, morning and evening. A pint of Britiſh brandy may be added. While uſing, keep it warm over a chafing-diſh. The remaining liquor may be put again on the herbs, for next day's occaſion.

A ſeminal gleet in horſes, from plethora and want of exerciſe, is remedied by veneſection, mild purgatives, alterants and regular attention to cleanlineſs; but partially in ſome conſtitutions, where the ſeminal ſecretion is very copious: this joined to the other inconvenience of ſtallions being more liable to greaſe and foulneſs than geldings, has often made me wonder that ſo many of the former ſhould be kept

in

in the London brewery. That they are more capable of labour, I know by experience to be unfounded, at leaſt that geldings are fully adequate to every purpoſe required. It is a great folly in the breeders to keep ſo many ill-ſhaped horſes ſtoned. FAST WALKERS are now the great object of requeſt for the London drays, and I think the beſt cattle which I have noticed of late are geldings.

In a falling of the yard from debility, and relaxation of the muſcles, anoint with wine, one pint, and Goulard as before (ſee Fundament) or oil of roſes and brandy; or foment if much tenſion, ſuſpending the penis, with a hole left for the urine to paſs. Inject the firſt mixture. It has been adviſed to make ſuperficial punctures about the yard with a ſharp needle, and then to waſh with diſtilled vinegar, but I know nothing of the ſucceſs of ſuch practice. The member being returned, bolſter it up ſecurely, and charge with bole, whites of eggs, flour, dragon's-blood, turpentine, and diſtilled vinegar. Diſcharge a pail or two of cold water, from the pump or well, upon the horſe's loins every morning early, rubbing dry; bathe the loins once or twice a day with the reſtringent embrocation, to which may be added oil of origanum. Cordial balls with a few grains of opium.

VENEMOUS BITES.

Bracken makes merry with Sir William Hope's mice; however I have often ſeen the *ſhrew*, or *ſhrove-mice* of the old farriers, in different counties; they have a ſnout like a hog, their bite is venemous, cats will kill, but not eat them. If a horſe in the field were ſeized with a numbneſs in his limbs, which was ſtyled to be TAKEN, or in the language of Monſ. *Horace*, a famous French farrier, SURPRIS, he was adjudged by the old ſages, either planet-ſtruck or ſhrew-run; and the cure (which never failed) was as rational as the ſuppoſed cauſe of the diſeaſe; the patient was dragged through a bramble which grew at both ends!

In punctures from the ſtings of hornets or waſps, or wounds by the tuſks of a boar, which laſt are apt to ſwell as if venom were really inſtilled; waſh clean with warm ſoap ſuds, and anoint well ſeveral times a day with warm ſallad oil. Emollient poultices, and fomentations with rue, wormwood, bay-leaves, ragweed, and wood-aſhes. Heal with Ægyptiacum and Brandy mixed. Saline phyſic, or nitrated water, if feveriſh ſymptoms ſupervene; or the internals hereafter recommended.

The bite of a viper or eft, is of far worſe conſequence; not only the wounded part, but ſometimes the whole body will be conſiderably ſwelled.

ſwelled. Make a tight bandage above the wound, if upon a limb: enlarge the wound with a ſmall ſharp pointed cautery, avoiding the tendons, and keep it open as long as the venomous ſymptoms remain, with ſponge ſmeared with precipitate ointment, or orris root prepared with Spaniſh flies. Rub in warm oil mixed with viper's fat, both to the wound and the ſwelled parts. Waſh with, ſtrong vinegar, one pint; muſtard-ſeed, two ounces; mix. Stop cloſe a few hours, and ſtrain. Dreſs with warm Ægyptiacum, once or twice a day. In ſome caſes bleeding is required. The following drink every night for a week. Venice treacle, one ounce; ſalt of hartſhorn, one drachm; cinnabar of antimony, half an ounce; ſweet oil, three ounces in warm ale. Drinks of wormwood, rue, and ſcordium. Scraped tin.

On that moſt dreadful of all maladies, CANINE MADNESS, no new diſcoveries have been made, excepting that the *hydrophobia*, or dread of water, is not a peculiar conſequence, or ſymptom of the rabid poiſon, although its general attendant; but merely ſympathetic affection from a pained tendon, analogous to the *tetanus*, or locked-jaw. Hydrophobia has been known to attend hyſteric caſes, and painful wounds in the tendons, and to precede the locked-jaw.

In the bite of a mad-dog, for in that animal the contagious rabid poiſon ſeems to originate, or of any animal which being bitten acquires the power of propagating the poiſon, the only remedies intituled to any rational dependance, are inſtant exſection, or cutting away the bitten part, uſtion or burning, and mercurials. The Ormſkirk Medicine, Dr. Mead's remedy, bathing in ſalt water, and many other pretended ſpecifics, have all failed; and as I ſhould conceive, never had any real title to do otherwiſe. That Dr. Mead ſhould recommend liver-wort and pepper, as articles of ſufficient efficacy to be a ſpecific cure in a diſeaſe of ſuch dreadful and potent malignancy, would be truly aſtoniſhing, did we not know that the greateſt men are ſometimes guilty of the greateſt abſurdities. Beſides burning the wound, where practicable, a circle ought to be drawn round it with a cautery. Rub the part with ſtrong mercurial ointment and turpentine as often as poſſible, without raiſing a ſalivation. Turbith mineral has ſucceeded in the cure of dogs, of courſe it ought to be tried with horſes, and alſo with human patients. Bartlet adviſes turbith and camphor equal quantities (ſee Farcy.) Before, or after the Turbith courſe, the horſe ſhould be frequently plunged in cold water. This is recommended by the doctors, to be done the day before the full, or new moon;

moon; what her nocturnal majeſty can poſſibly have to do in the buſineſs, I have no conception; but it is eaſy enough to prove, that ſhe and her ſtarry attendants are often implicated by fond and ſilly mortals, where they have no manner of concern.

The diagnoſtics of canine madneſs are, hunger and thirſt, without power to eat or drink, trembling, eyes fierce and flaming, hanging of the ears and tail which is bent inwards, lolling of the tongue, foaming, barking of the dog at his own ſhadow, panting, running a ſtraight and heedleſs courſe againſt any thing in his way, biting with violence; other dogs fly him by inſtinct.

Some people have, and do at this day, deny the exiſtence of canine madneſs, as alſo that the plague is contagious; this is only the proof of another ſpecies of madneſs.

SWALLOWING OF LEACHES, OR HEN'S DUNG.

This accident frequently happens to country cart-horſes, paſſing off with a ſlight ſickneſs, and without notice. Whilſt the horſes are abſent, the poultry will always watch the opportunity of examining the mangers, where they leave both dung and feathers, which ought ever to be carefully ſwept away, previous to feeding the horſes. Horſes drinking

at ponds will often ſuck in a variety of filth and vermin. The ſigns of having ſwallowed leaches, or other vermin, are, hanging the head to the ground, and a diſcharge of impure ſaliva, ſometimes mixed with blood. Give a pint of ſweet oil warmed, with a glaſs of brandy, and a drachm of ground ginger. Scalded bran and gruel. The oil may be repeated if needful. Mild doſe of aloes and rhubarb, with one ounce diapente, waſhed down with warm ale.

When any conſiderable quantity of fowls dung and feathers have been ſwallowed, the horſe will loſe his appetite, ſwell in his body, and void fœtid, ſlimy matter from his fundament. The ſame medicines and treatment, with the addition of honey to the oil. Walking exerciſe, the horſe clothed. Sow-thiſtle dried and powdered, ſmallage-ſeed bruiſed, marjoram, and the aſhes of the root, leaves, and fruit of briony, were the ſpecifics of former times.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

ON THE DISEASES OF THE EYES AND MOUTH.

I AM by no means deeply ſkilled in the phyſiology of viſion, and ſhall refer ſuch of my readers as are curious upon that ſubject, or deſirous of acquiring ſatisfactory information on the anatomy of the eye, to Dr. Bracken's works, where their laudable curioſity may be amply ſatisfied. The Doctor (who ſeems to have been thoroughly qualified for the taſk) paſſes ſome very ſevere ſtrictures both upon the knowledge and veracity of the famous Chevalier Taylor; and it is highly probable ſeveral phyſicians of that time, not being thoroughly experienced in the anatomy of the eye, were deceived by the plauſibility and manual addreſs of that confident empyric.

The diſeaſes of the eyes in horſes, natural and acquired, may, I think, be conveniently claſſed as follows: OPTHALMY OR INFLAMMATION, from whatever cauſe; HUMOUR-BLINDNESS, DIMINUTION OF SIGHT FROM DEBILITY OF THE ORGANS, CATARACT, GUTTA SERENA, EXTERNAL ACCIDENTS.

Previous to entering upon the method of cure, I have a few remarks to make upon an article of prime conſideration, as a remedy in this caſe, which has been introduced ſince the days of Gibſon (a ſolitary inſtance of addition, I believe) I mean Goulard's Extract of Saturn, a preparation now more commonly uſed in veterinary practice, than the ſugar, or ſalt of lead. I have reaſon to know, from frequent experience, that this moſt potent and efficacious repellent and bracer, is made much too free with, both to the eyes and tendons of horſes, whence are induced violent irritation, inflammation, and a general effect totally contrary to that intended. Mr. Taplin, who is in moſt caſes a cautious preſcriber, has yet not only erred, according to my obſervation, in aſſerting that the ſpecific in queſtion is more commonly too much diluted, but in the want of ſufficiently diluting it in his own preſcriptions. He adviſes (p. 89, Stable Directory) no leſs a quantity than two ounces Goulard's Extract, with the ſame quantity of ſpirits, and four ounces opodeldoc, without the leaſt dilution, to be rubbed twice a day into a horſe's leg; an application, I ſhould conceive, not merely probable to diſappoint and interfere with the intention, but to be attended, if perſiſted in, with all thoſe dangerous conſequences

quences uſually reſulting from ſuperaſtriction, and the known poiſonous quality of lead.

His collyriums alſo, I think much too ſtrong and ſharp, and ſuch as I am convinced would injure any of thoſe horſes eyes with which I have been acquainted, and they have not been few. Gibſon makes a moderate uſe of lead in his preſcriptions, juſtly obſerving, that the eye is very delicate, and in a recent hurt ſcarce able to endure the common eye-waters. Dr. Darwin ſpeaks againſt the too early uſe of ſtimulating eye-waters in opthalmy, and recommends afterwards the ſolution of vitriol, in preference to that of lead. Bold meaſures, it is pretended, ſucceed well with the eyes of horſes, but ſuch pretenſions muſt be received with caution; the eye is a very delicate organ, to what animal ſoever it may belong.

I have been in the conſtant habit of uſing Goulard's Extract, about eighteen years, not only upon horſes and other animals, but upon my own perſon. From the unfortunate cuſtom of writing by candle-light, and the unpardonable omiſſion of any kind of guard for the eyes, I have experienced a gradual diminution of ſight about four years. I had always leaſt ſight in my left eye, and about three years ſince, after writing late over night, I walked to ſee the ſkaters upon the ice in St. James's Park, where, all on a ſudden, I perceived a

diſagreeable ſenſation communicated to the optic nerves, from the glare of light occaſioned by the reflection of the ſun upon the ice and ſnow. On my return home, taking up a book, I was extremely ſhocked to find I had loſt all diſtinct viſion with my weakeſt eye, which I have not yet regained, nor ever ſhall. I mention this matter merely to inform thoſe who may be in the ſame unlucky predicament, of an eye-water which is in conſtant uſe with me as a ſtrengthener, and which is always ready at my elbow. Goulard's Extract, ſeven drops; ſoft water, one ounce. Apply it to the corner of the eye, and between the lids with the finger, wiping it afterwards from the ſurrounding ſkin, which it is otherwiſe apt to draw into wrinkles, if conſtantly uſed. If by accident I make it ſtronger, it never fails to irritate and inflame, and lays me under the neceſſity of diſcontinuing it awhile, and of uſing ſimple water as a cooler. In caſe of humour or inflammation, add a ſmall tea-ſpoonful of brandy or old Madeira.

Opthalmy, or Inflammation of the Eye, is always ſufficiently viſible. The Eyelid is cloſed, ſwollen, and weeps; the ball is inflamed, and the veſſels filled with ſtagnant blood appear very plain upon the coat. It is firſt neceſſary to inveſtigate the cauſe, ſince it may be merely the intruſion of ſome ſmall extraneous

traneous body, ſuch as a hay-ſeed; which being ſuſpected, the eye ought inſtantly to be ſearched with a ſoft rag, or piece of ſpunge dipped in warm ſkim-milk and water, to which may be added a tea-ſpoonful of aqua-vegeto. I have now before me a memorandum of a colt, one eye of which appeared as above deſcribed; dreading to give the animal pain, I would not ſuffer the eye to be opened and ſearched, although the cauſe of the complaint was ſuſpected. It continued exceſſive bad ſeveral weeks, the colt loſing his appetite and falling away in conſequence, until the inflammation being abated, and the eye opened, a ſcar upon the external coat, left by the offending particle, perhaps an oat-hull, was viſible, and was not obliterated under ſeveral months.

A caſe of ſlight, or ſuperficial opthalmy, will generally give way in a few days to topical applications, of the emollient and repellent kind. It is the general practice to have recourſe to repellents in the firſt inſtance; all I have a right to ſay is, I have ſometimes ſeen the ill ſucceſs of it, by an increaſe of the inflammatory ſymptoms, to allay which it has become neceſſary to make inſtant uſe of emollients. I have ſucceſsfully treated inflamed eyes in horſes, with warm ſkim-milk and water, repeated often, and bread and milk poultices, until the heat and tenſion had abated; afterwards,

wards, with a mild ſolution of Goulard. The moſt authorized practice however is, the immediate uſe of cold ſpring water, or vinegar and water, and repellents. TAKE one pint of the ſtrained decoction of plaintain, roſemary, and red roſe-buds; or inſtead thereof, a pint of clear water, add one drachm ſugar of lead, and one drachm and half of white vitriol. OR. The following aqua-vegeto-mineralis: Clear water, one pint; Goulard's extract, one hundred drops; beſt brandy, a ſmall glaſs. In this proportion, I have generally uſed the extract to the eyes of horſes. Bathe externally, and apply internally, with rag or ſpunge, ſeveral times a day. OR. Honey of roſes, ſpring water, and white of an egg, mixed; and applied with a feather. Some horſes are ſubject all their lives to weak and weeping eyes, upon every ſlight cold, from neglect while colts, and lying about in wet and boggy paſtures; the only remedy is the occaſional uſe of the vegeto-mineral water. Colts, whilſt breeding their teeth, and horſes with irregular teeth, are liable to ſimilar inconvenience; the ſame external method, with ſalts, and moderate bleeding, and extirpation, or filing down the preternatural teeth.

HUMOUR-BLINDNESS, OR INVETERATE OPTHALMY. The whole eye is inflamed both internally and externally, and the admiſſion of light

light occaſions intolerable pain; the proximate cauſe, I apprehend, to be either obſtruction in the capillaries, the blood being too denſe for circulation, or a dilatation and weakneſs of the veſſels themſelves. This diſeaſe is curable with two proviſos; being taken in time, and the eye being naturally good; otherwiſe the attempt at cure is fruitleſs. For the deſcription of a good eye, I refer the Reader to Vol. I. p. 195; if a profeſſional man, to Gibſon. For the beſt method of cure with which I am acquainted, I ſhall preſent the Reader with a remarkable caſe from my memoranda. In 1781 my favourite brown mare had a weeping in one of her eyes, with ſwelling of the lids; it paſſed off, after a while, unattended to; a ſhort time after, the other eye was affected in the ſame manner. Eye water was uſed, and bleeding, and the mare being wanted for a particular occaſion, was phyſiced. The diſeaſe remitted and exacerbated alternately, for a month or two, until at length it became very ſerious; one eye was exceedingly ſwollen, and opened with great difficulty, diſcharging a ſcalding ſcrum, which almoſt brought off the hair; the coats of the other were thickened, and looked very dull.

Bye-and-bye the ball of the one was inflamed in the higheſt poſſible degree, and the other, although not ſo much inflamed, ſeemed to admit little or no light. There appeared a white

ſpeck

ſpeck upon the pupil, and ſeveral ignorant fellows who ſaw the mare, were exceedingly deſirous of having I know not what eſcharotic powders blown into the eye, with a view of ſcouring off what they ſuppoſed to be films upon the external coat, not being aware that the diſeaſe was purely internal; and it is ſhocking to reflect upon the uſeleſs tortures the poor animal would have endured in ſuch hands. Repellents either increaſed the inflammation or had no effect at all. Nitre was given. A doſe of phyſic checked the inflammation, but total blindneſs ſhortly followed. By the advice of my ſurgeon, I applied to Snape, the king's farrier, who pronounced the mare incurable; I then ſent her to Layton, a very eminent farrier at Walham Green, with my particular requeſt that he would undertake the caſe; which he declined as hopeleſs. Thus left to my own efforts, and my affections deeply intereſted, I was determined no exertions of either thought or care ſhould be wanted; and luckily I was ſeconded by a ſkilful groom, a ſon of old Mendham, well known as an humble ſtable-attendant at Newmarket. It muſt be premiſed, that the mare had had a ſlight fit of the ſtaggers about a year before, which had been neglected, but her eyes were of moſt perfect conformation, and in their natural ſtate as clear and diaphanous as a poliſhed mirror. After turning over

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all my veterinary Oracles, I formed my plan, and having previouſly obtained the approbation of a regular medical friend, I began my operations. I judged that the humours were condenſed, and that topical applications were indicated, to render them fluid, and fit for abſorption and circulation; and that a number of drains or iſſues were immediately neceſſary, for the purpoſes of evacuation and revulſion. I ſuppoſed, right or wrong, that peculiar benefit would be derived from the proximity of the iſſues to the parts affected, on which particular I ſhould at this day be thankful for information. A ſoft leather-half-hood, with holes for the ears and eyes, was made, intended to cover and ſecure poultices. Five rowels were cut; one in each cheek under the ear, under the throat, in the cheſt and the belly. The eyes were poulticed with hot bran and lard, aqua-vegeto occaſionally added, a number of times during the day, and very early in the morning; poultices continually remaining upon the head: this courſe was ſedulouſly obſerved during a month or ſix weeks, all which time the rowels, or moſt of them, were running. An opening diet, and a little ſalts with walking exerciſe. After a week the inflammation gradually ſubſided, but there were no ſigns of returning ſight, till the end of a month or five weeks; when we were indulged with hope one day, and driven to

deſpair

deſpair the next; in ſhort, the jokers were buſy, but I was determined to perſevere. We were ſoon after agreeably ſurprized with conſiderable amendment in one eye, and in a week or two more, the mare could endure the light with both, and ſaw very clearly; there ſtill however remained a blue cloudineſs, which was not diſperſed until ſome months afterwards. The poultices were diſcontinued, but the eyes were ſtrictly guarded from the light by the hood before-mentioned, the eye-holes being filled with ſoft leather; nor did I expoſe the eyes to the light for near two months after the return of ſight, riding the mare blinded. After the poultices, aqua-vegeto was uſed twice a day. Salts, and a ſhort courſe of cinnabar in cordial ball. I highly enjoyed the firſt little journey I rode without the blinds, the animal ſtopping a great number of times upon the road, to examine different objects, with as much curioſity as if ſhe had entered upon a new world. Her eyes remained perfect until her death, which happened ſix years afterwards from an apoplectic fit, as was ſuppoſed, ſhe being ſeen well in the field at night, and found dead in the morning. I tried the above method with two horſes afterwards, but by no means with correſponding ſucceſs; which indeed I did not expect, their eyes being naturally ſmall, and of defective form.

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The concluſions to be drawn from this caſe are, that the grand dependance for cure is upon the timely inſertion of a ſufficient number of rowels, and upon keeping the eyes ſtrictly from expoſure to the light; that repellents are not always ſucceſsful, but I preſume more particularly indicated in weakneſs and dilatation of the veſſels, and that purgatives may be injurious.

Liniments for the Eyes. Mild and cooling: ointment of tutty, one ounce; honey of roſes, two drachms; white vitriol, one ſcruple. Detergent: myrrh finely powdered, half a drachm; camphor, five grains; white vitriol, ten grains; honey, two drachms; rub them together with ſpring water. To be uſed with a feather or pencil in foulneſs from much diſcharge.

For a film, web, or ſpeck left upon the outermoſt coat of the eye, after the inflammation ſhall have ſubſided, there ſeems hitherto to have been no remedy, but corroſive powders or waters; although Dr. Darwin ſeems to hint at the practicability of an inſtrumental operation. Solleyſel indeed recommends ſtroaking a white film with the thumb covered with wheat flour, the eyes being previouſly waſhed; which he ſays will extirpate it much ſooner than the uſe of powders, the beſt of which for the purpoſe,

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in his opinion, is ſal ammoniac. Bracken recommends Dr. Mead's ointment, which indeed ſeems ever to have been moſt in repute, whether from the great name of the author, or from experience, I know not: at any rate it does not ſtand in the predicament of the Doctor's chip-in-porridge for hydrophobia, for of the ointment no one can doubt the efficacy, from its inciding power, and I ſhould dread its action upon the corners of the eye, and the eye-lids, where it might raiſe a new inflammation. TAKE glaſs, reduced to a fine powder, which ſift through fine lawn, and mix with honey. I would adviſe a very ſmall quantity to be tried at firſt, which may be increaſed, if not found to produce irritation and painful ſymptoms. Previous to the uſe of the ointment, perhaps the eye ſhould always be waſhed with ſkim-milk and aqua-vegeto. Gibſon adviſes white vitriol, one drachm, white ſugar-candy half an ounce, ground very fine, to be blown into the eye with a tobacco-pipe, once a day; or put into the corner of the eye, with the finger and thumb. Of theſe applications I have hitherto had no experience, but I will once more give a caution, that before their uſe be hazarded, it be well aſcertained, that the defect intended to be removed be really ſituate upon the outer coat of the eye, ſince ſuch remedies can have no poſſible

poſſible effect upon the internal parts, and may inflame, irritate, and torture to no manner of purpoſe.

DIMINUTION OF SIGHT FROM DEBILITY OF THE ORGANS. It is doubtleſs owing to their various hard laborious ſervices, that horſes are more ſubject to diſeaſes of thoſe moſt tender and ſenſible organs the eyes, than any other animals; thence perhaps alſo the ſource of their hereditary defects. Hard labour, particularly heavy draught, and repeated violent exertions at dead pulls, will produce blindneſs; alſo poor and unſubſtantial keep. The ſigns are, a gradual loſs of convexity, or plumpneſs in the eyes, with dullneſs, and imperfect ſight at intervals. If the eyes are naturally good, a cure may be wrought by mending the keep of the horſe, and the conſtant uſe, twice a day, of the ſtrengthening ſaturnine collyrium preſcribed in humour-blindneſs. Bathe the temples occaſionally with diſtilled vinegar and brandy mixed.

CATARACT OR GLAUCOMA, for they appear to be one and the ſame diſeaſe, is a ſuffuſion, or cloud upon the *pupilla*, commonly called the ſight of the eye, at firſt partially, in the end totally, obſtructing the ingreſs of the rays of light: the proximate cauſe is ſaid to be a preternatural affection of the cryſtalline, or ſecond humour of the eye, which is changed,

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becomes opaque, and impervious to the rays of light; the remote cauſe, in horſes particularly, is almoſt always natural bad conformation of the organ, by which the humours are predispoſed to other cauſes of the diſeaſe; and I ſcarce recollect ſeeing either cataract, or gutta ſerena, in a well-formed eye. That which is termed in the language of the ſtable, LUNATIC, or MOON-BLINDNESS, is nothing but the intermittent or periodical blindneſs, uſually conſequent of the initient cataract; which as well as *hydrophobia*, the *catemenia*, and other natural and preternatural events, our wiſe grandſires, who in all things, religious and political as well as medical, adhered to rule in preference to truth, would need ſuppoſe were humble attendants upon the *phaſes* of the moon. But common ſenſe is coming apace into faſhion; and inſtead of merely READ, MARK, LEARN; examine—*approfondiſſez*—take your draught from the bottom of the well; are the order of the day: let us however be careful to keep clear of the mud, Citizens.

MOON-BLINDNESS, generally makes its appearance in horſes, at five, or before ſix years old; and the cataract may be a year or two, or more, in coming to perfection. The ſymptoms in the mean time are well known; cloudineſs, imperfect ſight, in one or both eyes; in ſome a diſcharge of ſcrum, with an eye quite cloſed at intervals:

intervals; well and tolerably clear again: in others, ſcarce any diſcharge, but a gradual waſting and decay of ſight. As to cure, it is ſcarce to be expected, unleſs in the very rare caſe of a cataract occurring in a naturally good eye, when I ſuppoſe the diſeaſe would ſubmit to that method already laid down in humour-blindneſs; in general, moon-blindneſs is too much a diſeaſe of debility, to require thoſe conſiderable evacuations. Should however the diſeaſe be ſuppoſed to originate in obſtructed humours, and a depraved ſtate of the blood, mercurial phyſic, rowels, and tying up the temporal arteries or veins, according to the nature of the caſe, have been recommended; and I muſt acknowledge the laſt moon-blind horſe with which I had any concern, had all that appearance, but I had been too often foiled to make any new attempt. Bracken ſays he couched one horſe with ſucceſs, but he does not tell us whether to render his ſucceſs of real uſe, he made the patient a preſent of a pair of concave ſpectacles, and taught him their uſe; ſince what with the loſs of convexity in the *cornea*, from the diſeaſe firſt, and afterwards from the operation, the horſe would ſee but wildly after all, without artificial help.

The cruel and ſilly idea of putting out one eye to ſave the other, appertains properly to the old ſyſtem, and is couſin-german to that

religious practice of hanging or drowning a poor wretch, burning or burying alive a guiltleſs animal, for bewitching or being bewitched! And the perpetrators of theſe humane and legal acts, were *great and good men*—great and good men! Were they knaves or fools? They were ſurely far enough from fools, but an obſtinate and implicit faith, and adherence to ſyſtematic follies, has ever had the ſad effect of changing honeſt men into knaves, and of leading the moſt able into the commiſſion of acts which would diſgrace an idiot. The putting out one eye is perfectly uſeleſs, ſince if the other be naturally good, the meaſure is unneceſſary; if not, it can have no good effect, but may have the evil one of inducing a freſh inflammation, perhaps by ſympathy upon the beſt eye.

In a GUTTA SERENA, both eyes are generally affected, and are vulgarly called glaſs eyes, appearing clear and ſhining, although they admit little or no light. They are ſometimes large and prominent like calves eyes, at others ſmall and flat, in colour often of a light blue, the pupil being deep blue, or black. The pupil neither dilates nor contracts, which is pretty much the ſame as to ſay, the eye, or rather its viſion, is extinct; and that again is to ſay, no cure need be expected. The defect has always been ſuppoſed to originate in a want

want of irritability in the optic nerve. According to Darwin. Electricity. Bliſters on the head. Opium, and corroſive ſublimate mercury, four or ſix weeks. Would not ſneezing powders be beneficial in the beginning of the diſeaſe, or turning to graſs, that the conſtant depending ſituation of the head in feeding, might invite an acceſſion of blood and nouriſhment to the eyes?

EXTERNAL ACCIDENTS. Contuſions on the eyes are to be treated with coolers, repellents, fomentations or poultices, and bleeding. Sometimes from a blow or ſtroke upon the eye, the juices, naturally clear and pellucid, will ſtagnate and turn to a pearl colour, or quite white, over the whole ſurface, and the horſe will be nearly or totally blind; but ſuch ſymptoms will in a few days ſubmit to proper treatment. Wounds of the eyes may be mortal if they penetrate the orbit to the bottom, where the branches of the optic nerves paſs from the *cerebellum*; ſhould the *retina* be preſſed, which is compoſed of the optic nerve, and many ſmall twigs of veins and arteries, blindneſs is unavoidable, and perhaps convulſions may enſue; the ſame may be expected from the fracture, or depreſſion of the bones of the orbit, or ſocket, but a wound, or puncture through ſome of the coats and humours is curable; for inſtance, the *cornea*, or horny coat may be per-

forated, the humour let out, and viſion interrupted, and yet the humour ſhall be repleniſhed, and ſight reſtored in ten or twelve hours time, as cockers often experience: with the exception, however, that the wound be not deep enough to touch the chryſtalline humour, which would become changed or darkened from the accident, and occaſion *glaucoma* and blindneſs.

The treatment of wounds in theſe parts, muſt be conducted on the ſame principles with thoſe of any other, reſpect only being had to their ſuperior ſenſibility, and the danger of inflammation and defluxion. Bleed. A rowel in the cheſt, or belly. An opening diet. Walking in the ſhade. Avoid all harſh applications, particularly that common one in theſe caſes, oil of turpentine. If the lid be divided, give but one ſtitch with a ſtraight needle, proper for ſuperficial wounds, the parts not being drawn too cloſe, but only ſo far as to bring the edges together, that there may be room for the diſcharge, ſhould the eye-ball be wounded. Honey of roſes, one ounce; tincture of myrrh, one drachm, is the proper dreſſing. Dip a pledget of lint (for tow or hurds are too harſh) into the mixture warmed, and apply it freſh once a day, until the wound be healed. Should fomentations be neceſſary, take the following form: elder-flowers, red roſes, and mallows,

mallows, each a handful; nitre, half an ounce; Goulard's Extract, three tea-ſpoonsful. Infuſe in a quart boiling water, ſtrain through a linen cloth, and when cold, add half a pint Red Port wine. Uſe two thick woollen cloths alternately, half an hour, the liquor not being made too hot, but warmed again, ſhould it grow too cool; the quantity will laſt two days, and the eye may be fomented five or ſix times.

The HAW, is a preternatural enlargement and ſpongineſs of the caruncle, or fleſhy ſubſtance, in the inner corner of the eye next the noſe; the exceſs of it ſometimes cauſes the ligament which runs along the verge of the membrane, to compreſs the eye-ball like a hoop, when the common operation of cutting out the haw is abſolutely neceſſary, nor is there any danger, if too much ſubſtance be not taken away, an error ſometimes committed by the farriers. Dreſs with honey of roſes; if fungous fleſh, ſprinkle with burnt allum, or touch with blue vitriol. In caſe of defluxion and weakneſs, brace with aqua-vegeto. In very painful wounds or inflammations of the eye, diluted tincture of opium. Saline purges are very proper from their gentle and cooling effects, when ſuch aid is wanted. In his Chapter on Moon-Eyes, Gibſon recommends a mild aloe purge once a week, with the following uſeful practical obſervation, of which I had a

ſtriking example laſt week. He has known "a weak purge work powerfully two or three "days, without the leaſt diminution of the "horſe's ſtrength or loſs of fleſh; from foul-"neſs by reaſon of redundant ſlime and greaſe."

The mare which I mentioned, p. 283, was off her ſtomach, weak, her coat rough, dead and ſtaring, and very hollow in her flanks. From her poor and meagre appearance, I was almoſt afraid to purge her, but ſuſpecting the real ſtate of the caſe, I ventured upon the following doſe, which I had often given to horſes of her ſize and ſtrength, with ſcarce any but alterative and diuretic effects. Succotrine aloes, and Turky rhubarb, ſix drachms each; myrrh and turmeric, each two drachms; aniſeeds, two drachms; ſaffron, one drachm; balled with ſyrup of buckthorn, and oil of amber. This began on Saturday morning, and did not ſet until Monday noon; operating the while with a degree of violence, which, however, did the mare no ſort of injury, on the contrary, ſhe has been ſleek in coat, and in the beſt ſpirits ever ſince; but had the quantity of aloes been larger, or of the common kind, in her ſtate of body, the injury to her conſtitution might have been conſiderable: an example of which I have before adduced. I muſt claim here a few grains of allowance for having ſaid, that a balling-iron ought never to be uſed:

uſed: Few grooms, I believe, would chuſe to preſent the lady, of whom I am now ſpeaking, with a ball, without ſuch aſſiſtance; we were farther obliged to put two halters upon her head, tying them in oppoſite directions, at a proper height, a perſon ſtanding behind her with a whip.

ON THE MOUTH.

And firſt of the LAMPAS, from the Latin *Lampaſcus*; this is an inflammation and tumour of the firſt bar of a young horſe's mouth, adjoining the upper fore-teeth, which prevents his chewing. La Foſſe and Bracken were in an error to deny the exiſtence of this inconvenience. I have never known any danger from burning in the caſe, but out of reſpect to the opinion of Gibſon, who aſſerts that the operation and uſual repellents are apt to prevent a diſcharge, and prejudice the eyes, I adviſe the meaſure to be deferred a week, giving during the interval ſcalded maſhes and warm gruel, and bleeding if indicated; ſhould the inflammation ſtill continue, cauterize the tumid parts lightly, without penetrating deep enough to ſcale off the thin bone ſubjacent of the upper bars. Waſh with ſalt and water firſt, and afterwards heal with a mixture of French brandy, Red Port wine, and honey.

RELAXATION

RELAXATION AND SWELLING OF THE PALATE FROM COLD. Uſe the above mixture, with a little addition of pepper, ginger, or ſpirit of ſal ammoniac.

BLOODY CHINKS OR CHOPS IN THE PALATE, from thiſtles, whins, or other prickly feed. Examine and waſh with ſalted water, or ſalt and vinegar, uſing the mixture afterwards. From neglect, the roof of the mouth may be inflamed and ulcerated, puncture with a ſmall pointed cautery.

GIGGS, BLADDERS, OR FLAPS IN THE MOUTH, theſe are the old terms for ſoft tumours, or puſtules with black heads, growing in the inſide of the lips, level with the great jaw teeth; in ſome cart-horſes they have been known to equal the ſize of a walnut, and at any ſize are painful, and prevent maſtication. Draw out the tongue, and uſe the knife or cautery, cleanſing and healing as above. The CAMERY or FROUNCE, or ſmall indurated tumours upon the palate, cure as above.

BARBS OR PAPS, are ſmall excreſcences under the tongue, which appear by drawing it aſide; when preternaturally enlarged, cut them cloſe.

CANKER IN THE MOUTH, or rather ulcers with little white ſpecks proceeding from gigs and warts neglected; the cautery moderately heated

heated is perhaps the beſt remedy: I ſhould ſuppoſe the mixture with the addition of ſal ammoniac ſharp enough, but if not, apply ſeveral times a day, Ægyptiacum and tincture of myrrh, ſharpened with oil of vitriol; or, ſublimate water; or, burnt allum, honey, and tincture of roſes.

HURTS IN THE TONGUE AND MOUTH, from ſharp or heavy bits. Touch ſeveral times a day with the firſt mixture, to which tincture of myrrh may be added, proceeding with the ſharper applications ſhould they be neceſſary. Examine the jaw-bone, which is too often injured likewiſe, carefully removing any ſplinters. I have in the Firſt Volume ſpoken of the cruelties inflicted in this way upon horſes, by a race of indolent and cold-hearted blockheads, giving one dreadful example of juſtly merited puniſhment; and what I have ſince obſerved, has ſerved to convince me, that the galling of the bits and trappings is frequently the occaſion of thoſe many inſtances we have of horſes breaking away in ſingle harneſs. Very frequently the brydoon is ſo tight, that the horſe's jaws are drawn up as if with a pulley, the animal half-choked, and kept in conſtant pain. Frequently on the change of a horſe, no care is taken to change the bit, which if not ſufficiently wide, holds the mouth, perpetually ſcrewed up as a vice. It is a material

a material part of the duty of grooms and horſe-keepers, often to inſpect the inſide of the mouths of their horſes.

WOLVES TEETH are ſaid to be two ſmall ſuperfluous ones, growing in the upper jaw next the grinders, and to be very painful to the horſe; it was the old practice to looſen and wrench them out with a mallet and carpenter's gouge, by which rough operation the jaw was often materially injured; granting the neceſſity of their extraction, it behoves the veterinary ſurgeon to furniſh a milder and ſafer method. In general, all teeth of irregular growth, whether inwards or outwards, which, during maſtication, prick and wound either the tongue, gums, or lips, are ſtyled wolves teeth. The upper teeth of old horſes ſometimes over-hang the nether ſo far, as to wound the lips. In every caſe of this kind, the file is the moſt proper inſtrument; firſt a rough, then a ſmooth or poliſhing one, the mouth clean waſhed after the operation, with ſalted water warm. For looſe teeth, the gums being ſwollen, puncture with a lancet, and waſh with a decoction of oak-bark, honey, and ſage, adding a ſmall quantity of diſtilled vinegar.

Dr. Darwin aſks, "does the enamel (upon "human teeth) grow again when it has been "perforated or abraded?" I have tried to reſtore it

it for a conſiderable number of years together; and if any thing can poſſibly effect ſuch end (which I much doubt) I think it is the conſtant uſe of the bark, which I have ever found the beſt dentrifice. Much will depend upon the age of the ſubject. About ten years ago, a man whom I chanced to know, publiſhed a dentifrice under the title of Eaſtern Tooth-powder, or ſome ſuch name, the baſis of which was japan earth, and which inſtead of poliſhing, actually abraded the enamel from the teeth of thouſands, and of my own among the reſt of the gulls.

CHAP. XIV.

ON THE DISEASES OF THE LEGS AND FEET, AND OF LAMENESS FROM RELAXED OR CONTRACTED LIGAMENTS.

THE GREASE.

AT the head of St. Bel's Eſſay on the Greaſe, we find the following quotation from Montagne: "I wiſh that every one would "write only what he knows, and as much as "he knows:" in this caſe I fear our profeſſor has

has gone farther than Montagne's wiſh, by writing ſomewhat more than he knew; however in the Prize Eſſay of a juvenile practitioner, a little flouriſh is pardonable; and the Eſſay contains ſome excellent remedies, and in general, a very rational method of cure.

The greaſe in horſes, is an extravaſation, or burſting from the veſſels, and afterwards through the ſkin, of *ſerum*, or ſimple humour, in the legs and heels, from the want either of exerciſe, or the recumbent poſture, to promote the circulation of the fluids in thoſe depending parts, "as (according to our veterinarians, whoſe "opinion is here ſanctioned by Dr. Darwin) "the column of blood preſſing on the origins "of the veins of the lower extremities, when "the body is erect, oppoſes the aſcent of the "blood in them; they are more frequently "liable to become enlarged, and to produce "varixes, or vibices, or, laſtly, ulcers about the "legs, than on the upper parts of the body." That ſuch is the cauſe, appears from the well known circumſtance of the horſe being free from greaſe abroad, where he conſtantly walks about to obtain his food, or ſtretches himſelf upon the ground at his eaſe. The diſcharge being greaſy, appears to be peculiar to the horſe, as I have before noted in motten-greaſe; that it is ſo fetid in this caſe, is not to be attributed to any original foulneſs and malignancy, as our grooms

grooms commonly ſuppoſe, but to the ſubſequent cauſe of the humour being lodged out of the verge of circulation, where it in courſe ſoon corrupts.

I have deſcribed the diſorder as it may ſpeedily happen to a horſe in the beſt condition of body, under the hands of a bad groom, the animal ſtanding as a mere fixture faſtened by the head in his ſtall, without exerciſe, his legs heated and fretted into cracks with dirt; but the greaſe may be complicated with, or occaſioned by an impure ſtate of the humours, by laxity and weakneſs of the veſſels, and a ſerous and impoveriſhed blood; or laſtly, by prediſpoſition from the natural conformation of the limbs. Round fleſhy-legged horſes are notoriouſly ſubject to this malady, which is as much as to ſay, it prevails moſt among cart-horſes; and that generally ſpeaking, the more blood a horſe has, by ſo much the eaſier he is preſerved from the greaſe. Not but ſome draught cattle have flat legs with the tendon very diſtinct; a point which deſerves the attention of the breeder.

The neceſſary meaſures of prevention, and the minor remedies proper to the incipient diſeaſe, have already been ſet forth in the Chapter on Stable duties, p. 59. I have ſaid, that ſome round-legged horſes will not, with whatever care, ſtand clean in the ſtable during the winter ſeaſon; of courſe ſuch ought not to be kept

kept but where they can be conſtantly accommodated with a run abroad: and in an inveterate caſe, a field to walk about in, is at leaſt three parts of the cure, nor ought ſuch to be undertaken without that advantage, for it is elſe generally palliative and deceptious; the diſeaſe, after a number of freſh attacks, terminating its career in canker, graped heels, and ſtiff joints, for which it may not be in the power of art to furniſh a remedy.

Should the tenſion not ſubſide, nor the cracks heal in conſequence of the milder applications, but the hair begin to ſtare, diſcharging greaſy drops, the ſwelling increaſe and become painful, the horſe catching up his leg and reſting upon the toe; the indication is, that the humours are faulty, at leaſt ſuperabundant, and require evacuants, and that the external applications muſt be of the more efficacious kind. It may perhaps be neceſſary to bleed. Give diuretics immediately. I always prefer a courſe of ſalined water to any of the uſual diuretic balls, and have a very good opinion of a decoction of fir-tops, in which, ſweetened with honey, the purging ſalt and cremor tartar, with the addition of nitre, if you will, may be diſſolved. Plenty of this will make your horſe urine enough to float your ſtable, beſides ſcouring and unlading his bowels. However, if you be inviolably attached to precedent, and nothing will

will ſuit either you or your horſe, but a good piſſing ball, take the following from our worthy friend Bartlet: Yellow roſin, four ounces; ſalt of tartar, and ſal prunellæ, of each two ounces; Venice ſoap, half a pound; oil of juniper, half an ounce; give a ball of two ounces weight every morning. Or. Nitre, two ounces; camphor, one drachm; ball with honey. Almoſt all theſe articles, I have obſerved to diſagree with horſes of delicate ſtomachs, and I think aniſeed, Van Helmont's *ſolamen inteſtinorum*, a good corrector of them: or the balls may be waſhed down with a horn or two of warm ale and powdered aniſeed ſweetened. Aloetic, or mercurial purges, followed by a ſhort, or long alterative courſe, or not, according to the caſe. It is however very material to be noted, that if the ſtagnation of the humour ariſe from a lax and dilated ſtate of the veſſels, and poverty of the blood, the evacuants muſt be of the gentleſt kind, the alterants muſt partake of the reſtorative claſs, cordial ball, ſteel, &c. and after ceſſation of the diſcharge, the tone of the defective veſſels ſhould be well confirmed, both by the actual and medical bracers; to wit, bandage and embrocation.

Clip away the hair, and let ablution, as already directed, be rigorouſly and punctually perſiſted in, twice a day (no excuſes from John, or juggling between him and the Doctor) with

the fotus afterwards, or fomentation with flannels. Poultices (ſee Index) and the parts conſtantly bound up, and well defended from cold. Rowel or ſeton in the breaſt, belly, thighs, or all of them. Looſe ſtable, and walking exerciſe, twice a day. Touch the ſores with the ægyptiacum Mixture (p. 121) and if they become rigid and dry, rub in the following ointment, or uſe it upon lint or tow: The aſhes of the fineſt hay, gooſe-greaſe, neat's-foot oil, and ſugar of lead. Or. Yellow baſilicon and honey, two ounces each; verdigreaſe in fine powder, three drachms. Or. Black ſnails, burdock-root, yellow ſoap, honey, and ſugar of lead; beat well, and mix thoroughly. For an occaſional emollient waſh, warm ſkim-milk and water, with a little aqua-vegeto. When from the inveterate foulneſs of the ulcers, the moſt powerful reſtringents and deſiccatives are demanded, the following forms are proper. A DRYING WATER. White vitriol and burnt allum, two ounces each; ægyptiacum, one ounce; lime-water, two or three pints; waſh two or three times a day. Or. Diſſolve half an ounce of Roman vitriol in one pint of water, decant into a quart bottle, adding half a pint of ſpirits doubly camphorated, ſame quantity of diſtilled vinegar, and two ounces ægyptiacum. Or. The following drying unguents. Honey, four ounces; white or red lead, powdered, two ounces:

ounces; verdigreaſe in fine powder, one ounce; or, orpiment, one ounce; verdigreaſe, three ounces; ſoot, five ounces; honey, one pound; ſoft ſoap, and a ſmall quantity of unſlacked lime; mix thoroughly over a ſlow fire, and uſe once a day. The objections of St. Bel and others to the uſe of ſtrong reſtringents and deſiccatives, from the danger of a retropulſion of the morbid humour, muſt be underſtood as applicable only to the earlier ſtages of the diſeaſe, and the practice of common farriers, who are in the habit of an excluſive exhibition of thoſe, without the neceſſary concomitant internals; when the ulcers and cracks are of long ſtanding and foul, and the greaſy ichor has acquired an inveterate habit of diſcharge by thoſe outlets, ſcarce any medicaments can be ſufficiently harſh or potent; and I have often been tempted to try the actual cautery by way of a deſiccative, and of changing the nature of the diſeaſe by rendering it acute.

From the conſtant greaſy diſcharge, there will be a fungous growth of the hoof; cut down the cruſt and ſhoe in ſuch form, that the frog may come to the ground. The heels will be violently ſwelled, and the hair being pen-feathered, or briſtled, and diſtinct, will diſcover the ſkin of a dead white, or livid colour; little bladders will ariſe and become confluent, forming ulcers covered with granulated fleſh, when

the heels are ſaid to be graped. Theſe ſwellings ſhould be ſcarified in time, with the knife, *ſecundum artem*, to evacuate the ſanious and bloody contents; ſome perform this with a heated knife, which perhaps may be preferable, if loſs of hair and ſcars be diſregarded. Cover well with anodyne poultices. Foment, &c. as before. Grapes upon the heels of long ſtanding and dry, are incurable, unleſs perhaps they could be eradicated either by knife or cauſtic, and the cure conducted with the horſe living abroad.

Horſes living upon grains, and other waſhy and unſubſtantial food, are very liable to greaſe; the fooliſh cuſtom of clipping, or pulling the heels intirely naked to the ſkin, in cold wintry weather, as we often ſee poor poſt-horſes ſerved, alſo ſubjects them to chilblains and chaps, which ſoon become greaſy. It may endanger a relapſe, to ſuffer horſes recovering from the diſorder to go abroad with the cracks expoſed to the air; a Burgundy pitch plaiſter is uſeful.

The CANKER IN THE FOOT, uſually ariſes from greaſe and ulcerated thruſhes. It is of a cancerous nature, and will in a very ſhort time rot the ſole, and deſtroy the muſcles of the bottom of the foot, which however will be reproduced after a cure. If neglected only a few days, it will grow ſeveral inches high, into a kind

a kind of cauliflower head, but of a pale red colour. Cut away the hoof wherever it preſs upon the tender parts, and ſoften with neat's-foot or linſeed oil, and every time of dreſſing bathe all about the coronet with chamber-lye, in which iron has been quenched. Dreſs at firſt once a day with aquafortis, oil of vitriol, or butter of antimony; or the nitrous acid, half an ounce, with corroſive ſublimate two drachms. Red precipitate. An ointment may be made with any of thoſe, mixed with honey and ver-digreaſe. The common method of dreſſing, is to extirpate the fungous fleſh with a knife, and apply pledgets of tow dipped in the ointment, wedged as tight as poſſible. This frequent dreſſing at firſt, is abſolutely neceſſary, as the great moiſture of the canker drowns and weakens the force of the moſt powerful oils. When the fungous is pretty well conquered, and does not riſe upon the dreſſings, once in two days will ſuffice. Strew precipitate and burnt allum upon the new growth of fleſh, until the ſole begin to grow. Aloetic or mercurial phyſic. Alteratives with guiacum. Salt marſhes.

SCRATCHES, RAT-TAILS, CROWN-SCAB, WARTS, MULES. Theſe are generally concomitants, or different appearances of the greaſe, and conſequently demand the ſame methods of prevention and cure. Scratches or Crepanches,

are long ſcabby chaps, or clefts, either dry, or with a ſmall fetid diſcharge, ſituated upon the hinder legs, between the fetlock and the hock. Rat-tails, ſo denominated from their appearance, are excreſcences of the hair and integument, upon the paſtern and ſhank, either moiſt or dry; the crown-ſcab is a defluxion of the greaſe upon the coronary ring. Warts and mules breed upon the heels; the latter ſo named from an Italian word, is, I believe, a kind of kibe, or chilblain.

SCRATCHES AND RAT-TAILS are often occaſioned by neglect, and the horſe ſtanding in hot dung and filth. Begin the cure by getting off all the ſcurf, and making them raw, or if neceſſary, laying them open, or paring off with a knife. Emollient and ſuppling applications may be wanted, of which variety has been preſcribed, as alſo of thoſe of different intent. The cure of a crown-ſcab is ſometimes a matter of conſiderable difficulty, for in a bad caſe, the milder applications have ſmall effect, and the more powerful, as oil of vitriol, and ſuch as are in common uſe, injure the coronet, and endanger the loſs of hoof. Soak the parts once or twice a day, with the tobacco infuſion, and the tobacco itſelf may be bound on as a charge. Or, a charge of marſh-mallows and yellow baſilicon, ſpread on tow. Touch with ægyptiacum and brandy; camphorated ſpirits, and

and as much ſal ammoniac as it will diſſolve; or the ſpirit of nitre and ſublimate as before. Purges, &c.

WARTS. Extirpate them with the knife, and apply a ſtyptic of vitriolic acid. When the bleeding is perfectly ſtopped, touch the roots either with the actual or potential cautery. If the wound be large and ſore after the eſcar is ſluffed off, dreſs with the Burgundy pitch plaiſter, if otherwiſe, with the diachylon only.

MALLENDERS AND SALLENDERS, for their deſcription ſee Vol. I. Foul and gourdy-legged horſes are moſt ſubject to them, and in ſuch, it is not always ſafe to repel the diſcharge without purging or alterative medicines. Clip the hair cloſe, and waſh often with a ſtrong lather of ſoap and water warm. Stale urine. Dreſs with ſtrong mercurial unction, ſpread on tow. Or. Frequent dreſſings with Burgundy pitch, common frankincenſe, tar, diachylon, and quickſilver, well rubbed down with Venice turpentine.

THE BROKEN KNEE. Waſh the wound clean from ſmall ſpecks of gravel or earth, with a linen rag and warm ſoap ſuds; wipe dry, and apply brandy. Stale chamberlye and ſalt, frequently applied. Friar's balſam has healed broken knees very ſpeedily. Or. Bind upon the parts tow, dipped in tincture of

myrrh and brandy. It may be neceſſary to poultice, and afterwards heal with wound-ointment. The knees being ſwelled, bathe with brandy and vinegar warm. It is ſaid that pigeon's dung, honey, and gooſe-greaſe mixed, will cauſe the hair to grow ſpeedily; and perhaps a piece of ſheet-lead, bandaged upon the part, might occaſion the hair to grow ſmooth and even with the old.

I have of late obſerved an improvement in the hoſe, or boots, which defend the legs of race-horſes in travelling, they reach above the knee; this guard for the knee ſhould be uſed to ſale horſes during their journey from the country, and to valuable horſes when exerciſed by careleſs boys; and ſome kind of guard faſtened above and below the knee, would be of great uſe to poſt horſes worked immediately upon a recent fall, ſince they are ſo liable to a repetition of the accident whilſt the knee is yet ſtiff, and the wound being again laid open, the miſchief is paſt remedy. The ſpeedy-cut might as well be prevented by a leather guard, as knocking. Theſe wounds ſhould be attended to in time, and require applications of the ſame kind as broken knees.

WINDGALLS. (Vol. i. p. 206, and for a deſcription of defects, I refer the reader generally to Vol. I. p. 194, and the ſubſequent pages.) Blood-horſes, and thoſe which are uſed for

for ſpeedy travelling, ſeem to be moſt ſubject to windgalls.

CURE. The beſt ſtable attention ſo often recommended; waſhing twice a day in cold water, embrocation, bandage, bliſtering two or three times ſucceſſively. Graſs. Early prevention when the colt is firſt worked, and duly continued. When theſe bladders prevail in a great degree within the paſtern joints, and have arrived at their worſt ſtage, the horſe ſtands and travels in conſtant pain, and is very unſafe to ride, all palliatives are ſo much time loſt; even firing is ineffectual, as being too ſuperficial; and I think in ſome caſes even adds to the pain of windgalls, by impacting that jelly, the abſorption of which it cannot promote, ſtill cloſer. As to taking up the veins, you might as well draw the horſe's teeth for a cure. Exciſion is then the only remedy, the operation for which, Bracken has improved from the old farriers; his improvement conſiſts in making the inciſion deep, and in the uſe of eſcharotics, with the intent of eradicating the ſubſtance of the cyſt or bag, previous to healing the wound, without which the cure would be only partial. My experiment of this method is as follows: About fifteen or ſixteen years ago, I purchaſed at Tatterſal's, expreſsly for the purpoſe, a bay hackney mare, got by Belmont, ten or twelve years old, having the moſt

moſt windgalls of any horſe I could find, out of a hundred or two. Being of an excellent conſtitution, and the beſt temper in the world, ſhe endured the operation without flinching, or giving us the ſmalleſt trouble; and the wounds were ſo well conditioned, that they healed ſurpriſingly ſoon, notwithſtanding they were moſt injudiciouſly and dangerouſly expoſed, without the leaſt covering, an hour or two in a dirty yard, whilſt it rained, and was very cold. Her ear and lip were moderately twitched, her head tied pretty high, and one leg held up, in order that her weight being thrown upon the other, the windgalls might be the more diſtended and palpable. A farrier performed the operation under my direction, by preſſing the bladder with the fingers of the left hand, on the other ſide of the joint, to render it tenſe, whilſt he made an inciſion with a penknife, either upward or downward, with the courſe of the hair. Being timid at firſt, he made ſeveral ſtrokes before he penetrated the cyſt, which was remarkably thick, although the mare was very delicate and fine ſkinned. The gelatinous or glary fluid iſſued out, and left the bag perfectly flaccid. We made nine different inciſions in her four legs, completely evacuating every bladder which could be diſtinguiſhed by the finger. Very ſmall flux of blood. Bathed inſtantly with warm brandy.

In

In a few hours we applied the following eſcharotic to the divided cyſt in each wound, which was continued until the ſubſtance of the cyſt was deſtroyed; the wounds were then ſoon healed with ſome ſpirituous application, and if I recollect aright, Burgundy pitch plaiſter. The UNIVERSAL ESCHAROTIC POWDER, from Dr. Bracken, p. 239, Vol. II. Equal parts allum, and white vitriol in powder, calcine in a crucible over a hot fire, or upon a red-hot fire ſhovel, until you reduce them to a fuzy white calx, which pulverize with equal weight of red precipitate, and keep in a dry bottle well corked for uſe. This the doctor recommends, and I, his diſciple, after him, to the farrier, in preference to the more violent eſcharotics, which ſometimes corrode the tendons themſelves, as well as the ſuperfluous ſubſtance intended to be deſtroyed. Being reſolved not to make the experiment by halves, and having a right to a leap of Croney, I ſent the mare to ſtraw-yard, and had her covered in the ſpring. She proved barren, and came up after a run of a year and a half, perfectly ſound, her legs as fine as when foaled, and the marks of the operation ſcarce viſible. I rode her a few weeks, and I perceived ſhe frequently dropped in her joints. She at length fell ſidewiſe with me, in cantering down hill, and doubling my left knee under her, nearly diſlocated

cated it; the laxity and weakneſs of the part remains as an everlaſting remembrance of her. But I am by no means convinced, that her dropping related at all to the operation which had been performed, and which I think deſerves farther trial. Surgeon Woodthorp, then of the dragoons, an amateur and excellent practical judge of horſes, and, amongſt our medical gentlemen, one of the beſt qualified for veterinary practice, if he choſe the trouble of it, took this mare into Nottinghamſhire, where I was afterwards informed ſhe won a match, and was then ſold to carry a lady, no windgalls appearing any more, nor any complaint of her going unſafe. The reader will excuſe my circumſtantiality and mention of names, to the obſervance of which I am induced, by reading certain caſes which bear the moſt palpable marks of fabrication. By this method, windgalls upon any part of the limbs, may be ſafely eradicated, and this brings me to—

The BOG-SPAVIN, upon the hollow of the hock behind, or jelly-bag, which was exfected, and a perfect ſound cure made upon a colt by Bracken (ſee his Second Volume, p. 214.) Caſt the horſe, and let a perſon preſs the windgalls which appear between the bones on the outſide of the hock, to render the bladder more tenſe and palpable for the operator. Keep clear

clear of the vein, and cut boldly, and deeply into the tumour. Apply the corroſive, and ſecure it by introducing doſſils of lint tied with a thread, and dipped in oil of turpentine. A little Armenian bole may be mixed with the powder, which ought to be uſed once in three days. Heal with common digeſtive. If a ſwelling of the joint enſue, foment. In 1788 I bought a very fine young horſe for a trifle, ſo lame with bog-ſpavins, as ſcarce to be able to creep, with a view of curing him; but I could not find a farrier in my neighbourhood then, who would undertake the operation, and I have no dexterity of that kind myſelf. I have had ſeveral horſes afflicted with this malady, and can aſſure thoſe from experience, who are in the predicament, that bliſtering, firing, taking up veins, and fomenting, in ſhort any palliative method of cure for it, will rather benefit their farrier than their horſe.

OSLETS, SPLENTS, SPAVINS, DISTORTIONS, CURB, THOROUGHPIN, RINGBONE. Theſe bony excreſcences, differently ſituated, all originate in the ſame proximate cauſe, an extravaſation of the cement, mucilage, or oil of the joints, which gradually condenſes and become oſſified. I have ſaid, that when completely oſſified they are incurable; but probably, a radical operation, judiciouſly performed, might ſucceed. The owners of all young horſes

horſes ſhould conſtantly watch the parts whence theſe excreſcences put forth, and take them in hand inſtantly, when ſucceſs need not be doubted; ſince the matter not being firmly condenſed, its abſorption might be promoted by repellents, and it might be compulſively returned again into the refluent blood. Watch any inviſible lameneſs or pain, as there is always an uneaſineſs in the parts, previous to an *exoſtoſis*. Rub hard three times a day, twenty minutes each time, with a piece of Brazil wood, or any ſmooth ſubſtance. Rub in gooſe-greaſe, and the moſt active diſcutients, camphorated ſpirits, with ſal ammoniac, and a little diſtilled vinegar, but no preparations of lead. Puncture. Bliſter a number of times. Briſk mercurial phyſic.

I have my doubts concerning a blood-ſpavin, *varix*, or dilatation of the vein, within-ſide the hock; not that ſuch a thing is impoſſible, but becauſe our beſt writers ſpeak confuſedly about it, evidently from the accounts of the elder farriers, who deſcribe a bog under the name of a wet-ſpavin, but erroneouſly ſuppoſe it fed by the maſter-vein. Suppoſing the real exiſtence of a *varix*, repel and bandage; if that will not ſucceed, tie the vein, a crooked needle and waxed thread being paſſed under it, both above and below the ſwelling, which muſt be ſuffered to digeſt away with the ligatures;

tures; dreſs with turpentine, honey, and ſpirit of wine.

Gibſon records a ſucceſsful operation upon a confirmed bone-ſpavin. Both he and Oſmer improved upon the method of the old farriers, in this caſe; though theſe laſt, according to Markham, uſed ſometimes to diſſect and lay bare the ſpavin, which they then chipped off with a fine chiſſel, a quarter inch broad, and a hammer, keeping clear of vein and ſinews: then dreſſed with verdigreaſe and nerve oil; in three days, waſhed with vinegar; plaiſter of pitch, roſin, and turpentine; healed in ſeven days.

The ſpavin in Gibſon's caſe, was deeply ſeated in the hock of a hunter. He firſt applied as ſtrong a cauſtic as he dared venture, for fear of hurting the tendons and ligaments, but ineffectually; when judging rightly that his hand poſſeſſed an elective power which the cauſtics had not, he determined on the cautery. The irons were made in the ſhape of a fleam, that they might penetrate deep, but not pointed; rounded on the face, and thick towards the back. Some ſmall blood veſſels were divided, and a pretty large effuſion of blood enſued, to which a ſtyptic was applied. The wound half an inch deep, and an inch long, with two or three ſhort lines on each ſide, was dreſſed with dry tow until the third day, that the

the hemorrhage might be fully ſtopped. Several days a gleet of viſcid water; great pain, inflammation, and ſwelling of the hock. Fomentations — Firſt dreſſings, turpentine on tow; afterwards with finely ground precipitate, two drachms to one ounce turpentine. Plentiful diſcharge of thin glutinous matter, for two months, before the ſkin began to cloſe and cover the wound, when the matter became laudable. Walking exerciſe. The precipitate which entered into the nervous parts, ſuppoſed of great benefit. Phyſicked during the cure. Sore healed in three months, and the hair grew, except a ſmall ſpot, over which a defenſive plaiſter. Hunted ſame ſeaſon, and ever afterwards perfectly ſound.

Oſmer's method (with which however he does not warrant ſucceſs) was to introduce a cauſtic enveloped in lint, in a particular manner, which I have no room to deſcribe; and I only notice it to ſtate, by way of caution, that Mr. Robſon's Spider, the famous trotter, was killed by the bungling attempt of a farrier at this method; the corroding poiſon of the application was ſo effectual and ſpeedy, that it reached the horſe's heart in about forty-eight hours, when he died in great agonies.

DISTORTIONS, OR LUXATIONS OF THE BONES OF THE HOCK. By a wrench or ſtrain, ſometimes the ſmall bones are jarred and

and diſplaced. The ſwelling generally appears on the middle and forepart of the hock. Extreme ſtiffneſs and inaptitude to motion. If poſſible, force the bone into its place, filling up the fore part of the hock with tow, and the cavities on each ſide, and alſo all the other cavities and vacancies, applying a piece of paſteboard, ſoaked in vinegar, over the diſtortion, and binding the whole with a broad ſoft roller or liſt. Six months run at graſs.

In firing a RING-BONE, uſe a thinner inſtrument than common, drawing the lines barely a quarter inch diſtant, and croſſing them obliquely like a chain. Mild bliſter, afterwards Burgundy pitch plaiſter. This, however, I have known not to ſucceed. As to drawing the ſoal, it is perfectly uſeleſs; and the operation, as deſcribed by Solleyſel, with the introduction of the red-hot knife, is dreadful to think of.

JARDONS, HOUGH-BONEY, OR CAPPED HOCKS (Vol. I. p. 216.) Indurated tumours, to be treated in the beginning, like initient ſpavins and ſplents; when confirmed, they are nearly as difficult as thoſe to remove.

STRING-HALT, although incurable, may and ought to be treated with palliative remedies, which will prevent its progreſs to the laſt ſtage, when the complaint becomes exceeding unſightly, and conſiderably diminiſhes the value

of the horſe. Looſe ſtable, and as much running abroad as poſſible. After a hard day's work, a warm bath for both hinder legs, up to the hocks, as long as the water continues warm; rub bone dry with linen cloths. Repeat in the morning. If very bad, comfortable fomentations. Anoint the back-ſinews, and about the hocks, with a liniment made of gooſe-greaſe and ſpirit doubly camphorated, well rubbed in. I nurſed the ſtring-halt many years, and ſhould be well content to experience the ſame trouble to the end of my days, on the ſame terms.

HURTS UPON THE CORONET, TREADS, SAND-CRACKS, CORNS, GRAVELLING, BRUISED THRUSH, RETRAIT, CLOYING, &c. QUITTOR, AND FALSE QUARTER.

In HURTS upon the Coronet, and Treads on the Heels, the rationale is giving inſtant attention; when that may be made whole in a day or two, which, if neglected, may coſt months and pounds, and at laſt be an incomplete cure. I had once a fine cart-horſe, three months in the ſtable, under the farrier's hands, and five months afterwards abroad, in conſequence of a ſimple tread upon his heel by another horſe. Cleanſe well with warm ſuds or urine, dreſs with tincture of myrrh and brandy, or Friar's Balſam, no greaſy applications on any account.

account. Bind up and preſerve from dirt. If a wound between hair and hoof, from a ſtub or any ſharp body, and the membrane bulge out, uſe the ſublimate water, as well as the foregoing mixture, or ſal ammoniac in camphorated ſpirits. Bind a piece of thin ſheet lead, or card, upon the part. Dreſs once a day. *See Wounds.*

The SANDCRACK, called by the French, *Seime*, is a cleft in the hoof, either up and down, or with the grain, in which latter caſe it is much eaſieſt cured. The cauſe is dryneſs of the hoof, either natural or accidental, and the malady ſhould be prevented by thoſe ſtable meaſures of ablution, cold or warm, already treated on at large. Should the cleft be conſiderable, at no rate work the horſe, but let him walk abroad in a light bar-ſhoe with the hoof bound up, and occaſionally attended to. Cut the edges ſmooth with a knife, that the horn may not preſs the tender parts; waſh clean with warm ſuds, and dreſs with tincture of myrrh, applying tow dipped in the tincture; bind faſt with liſt, and tarred rope-yarn. In caſe of hollowneſs under the Seime, and conſequent danger to the griſtle or ligament, it is recommended by Gibſon to fire with irons moderately heated: of this operation I have had no experience.

CORNS, (p. 208, Vol. I.) La Foſſe, ſo attached

tached to ſub-diviſions, has improved upon Solleyſel, by making five inſtead of three ſpecies of *Bleime:* In fact there are two, the natural and accidental; the one occaſioned by compreſſion of the hoof itſelf, in bad feet, with wiry heels and ſcarce any binders; the other by that of the ſhoe, or the intruſion of gravel, or ſmall ſtones under it. The preventive remedy is the new ſtyle of ſhoeing. If the bruiſe appear dry, with no tendency to ſuppuration, extirpate it by degrees with the knife, or rub in frequently ſome ſpirituous application, and nature will in time outgrow the blemiſh; turpentine and camphorated ſpirits mixed: ſhould the horſe travel tender, a light bar-ſhoe. In caſe of ſuppuration, make a ſmall opening for the matter, and ſtop with pledgets laid one over the other, dipped in the proper digeſtive, warm. In narrow heels, cut away the horn which preſſes upon the *bleime.*

GRAVELLING. The intruſion of gravel into the feet, chiefly through the nail-holes; one of the many ill conſequences of the common method of ſhoeing, according to which, the ſhoes are hollow, and apt to admit and retain the gravel, and the ſole pared ſo thin, that it eaſily penetrates. The horſe halts and deſires to go upon his toes, and the hoof is inflamed; but as other accidents, ſuch for inſtance as a clumſy ſhoe ſetting hard upon the heel, may occaſion

occaſion ſimilar ſigns, ſuffer not the ſoal to be cut away raſhly, under the idea of ſearching for gravel: but ſhould there really be gravel, it muſt needs be drawn out by manual operation, on account of the ſpiral form of the hoof, which occaſions any ſubſtance admitted to work upwards towards the coronet; whence a quittor may ariſe. This ſhews very clearly the folly of the old practice of ſtopping up a gravelled foot by night, and ſuffering the horſe to be travelled on. Having by moderate pinching, found the offending matter, get it all out as clean as poſſible with the drawing knife. Your ſucceſs will be known by the diſappearance of the blackneſs; waſh and deterge well with warm beer, in which is melted ſtrong ſoap and ſalt. Leave the hole rough, and hollowed, larger internally than at the orifice, to the end, that it may better contain the application. Charge as uſual. The gravel being all eradicated at a certainty (but by no means elſe) burning oil of turpentine may be dropped in; afterwards Burgundy pitch, or roſin.

The above method being ineffectual to diſlodge the gravel, which may have penetrated deep, and laid long enough to rot the coffin-bone; enlarge the wound, cut away the rotten fleſh, and dry and cleanſe the bone with a cautery, pointed ſugar-loaf form, as recommended by Bracken. Dreſs the bone once or

twice a day with doſſils of lint, dipped in tincture of myrrh-aloes half an ounce; tincture of euphorbium, two drachms. Mix. Cover with green, or precipitate ointment. Poultice the whole foot, if neceſſary. This method is leſs painful, and more effectual, than coring out the gravel with ſublimate.

Bruised Frush, this happens to fleſhy frogs, or in running thruſhes. Poultice with ſtale beer grounds, &c. uſe the knife judiciouſly. Detergents, repellents, ſtyptics, as before.

Retrait, Cloying, or Pricking, with Nail, or Stub. The two former are old terms. Retrait is when a horſe is pricked by the ſmith, but the error being perceived, the nail is inſtantly withdrawn. A horſe was ſaid to be cloyed, when the whole nail was driven into the quick, and clenched. This latter caſe, it may be eaſily conceived, would not remain long unattended to; and in a retrait, although the whole of the nail ſhould have been withdrawn, a tender-footed horſe may go a little lame, and ſuch accidents ſhould always be acknowledged by the ſmith, who may be by no means in fault. Let the horſe ſtand in the ſtable ſome days without ſhoes, pare the wounded ſide, and waſh the hoof with urine, and if any apparent wound, uſe the ſpirituous application.

Any

Any nail, ſtub, or thorn, having been extracted, to effect which no time ought ever to be loſt, waſh, dreſs, and ſtop, as already directed. Tar and turpentine are frequently uſed. If from pain and diſcharge of matter ſome remnant may be ſuſpected to remain behind, pare as thin as poſſible, and introduce a bit of ſponge tent, to enlarge the wound, and give room for the extraction of the remnant, with a ſmall pair of forceps, or encourage it to come away by digeſtion: ſhould this proceeding be ineffectual, and the lameneſs continue, with a ſanious and fetid diſcharge, uſe your drawing knife cautiouſly, and examine the bottom of the wound.

Bartlet ſays, if a nail be ſo driven as to wound the tendon, the ſoal muſt be drawn, on account of the gleet which will enſue. I muſt confeſs myſelf unprepared to judge of that. He ſays farther, that ſhould the joint of the foot be penetrated, or a nail paſs up to the nut-bone, the caſe is incurable. It is curious to remark the old applications for drawing out ſtubs, &c. the ſagacious preſcribers of which really thought, or ſeemed to think, their medicaments endowed with the mechanical powers of the forceps, inſtead of merely digeſtive ones; as ſome old goodies, even now a-days, bleſs out thorns.

QUITTOR AND FALSE QUARTER: cauſe and conſequence. A quittor, formerly called by our farriers a quittor-bone, or horny quittor, is the *javart* of the French ſchool. It is a hard round lump, or excreſcence upon the coronet, between hair and hoof, on one or the other, but uſually the inſide quarter of the foot. Its cauſe is the aſcent of a foreign body, or morbid material from the bottom, or ſoal upward; as a nail, a quantity of gravel, or the extravaſated matter of a bruiſe or corn, which could find no vent below; theſe forcing their way between the quarter and the coffin-bone, work a paſſage to the coronet, by deſtroying the foliated ſubſtance, and corrupting all the adjacent parts. This diſeaſe may be a conſiderable time in breeding, to the exquiſite torture of the animal, whoſe wincing, as well as the lump and inflammation upon his coronet, are perhaps totally neglected by the biped his maſter, until ſuppuration, and an ulcer of the moſt ſtubborn and dangerous kind enſue. I have been deſcribing the THOROUGH quittor, of all maladies to which the horſe's foot is liable, the moſt hopeleſs, if we except the founder; which makes it neceſſary to caution the reader againſt thoſe ſuperficial and palliative methods ſo confidently recommended. Any thing ſhort of the moſt radical operation in this caſe, will endanger

endanger the ſpeedy and total loſs of the hoof, for which reaſon no cure can poſſibly be made without the ill conſequence of a FALSE QUARTER, or ſeam down the hoof, from neceſſary loſs of ſubſtance. A horſe with this latter defect, may be very ſound in ſlow draft, but I never knew one in my life, that could be depended upon to ride. They are apt to drop down ſuddenly as if ſhot. A ſuperficial quittor, originating above, in which the cartilage is untouched, or a mere wound or ulçer in the coronet, is curable by the method already deſcribed.

St. Bel compares the horny quittor to the third ſpecies of whitlow on the human nail. Bating a little flouriſh, *à la coutumé*, that author is much ſuperior to any in our language, on the cure of this diſeaſe; I ſhall therefore follow him. Probe the ulcer, carefully following the direction of the fiſtulas, to diſcover whether the cartilage be affected; but if it ſhould be impoſſible to judge exactly of the irregular bottoms of the wound, it will be neceſſary to proceed to the following operations. Reduce the horſe's ſolid food, and give maſhes of bran and ground corn, with plenty of white water. Pare the hoof, raſp the quarter thin near the ſeat of the operation, and wrap the foot up in an emollient poultice two or three days. Having caſt the horſe

plenty

plenty of litter, and made a ligature round the paſtern, to prevent a flux of blood, an inciſion is to be made with a biſtory or knife, parallel with the coronet, and long enough to diſcover the cartilage in all its extent. Cut away as much of the upper part of the wall as neceſſary, but preſerve the lower part of the quarter and heel, as a ſupport, if poſſible; then with the inſtrument called a ſage-leaf (from its form) having a blunt back, and being ſlightly bent, cut away the cartilage gradually at three or four different attempts. In paſſing the inſtrument behind the cartilage, which covers the principal blood-veſſels of the foot, as well as the capſular ligament of its articulation with the bone of the coronet, the operator muſt uſe the utmoſt caution, ſince if he make an accidental opening or breach in thoſe, the horſe is lamed for ever. Scrape away lightly with the knife, the remaining fragments of the root of the cartilage, obſerving to fix the inſtrument on a ſolid part, and gently bearing from within outward, to avoid opening the adjoining capſular ligament. When all the cartilage is cleared away, examine the ſtate of the bone of the foot; if carious, remove the faulty part, and fire, in order to exfoliation. Search the wound carefully to the bottom, to aſcertain whether there be any remaining ſinus or fiſtula; and the operation completed, give the firſt dreſſing,

dreſſing, by applying to the bottom of the wound ſmall pledgets, ſoaked in a mixture of brandy, vinegar, and turpentine. The dreſſings muſt make an equal but ſufficient compreſſion on all the ſurface, and may be finiſhed by laying over the wound, and round the coronet, large pledgets, to avoid compreſſing the part. The bandage conſiſts of a piece of linen, almoſt ſquare, and big enough to go round the paſtern and the foot, with a roller three ells in length, and two inches broad; lead to the ſtable, and then take off the ligature from the paſtern. Bleed. Febrifuge diet.

The firſt dreſſing muſt remain a week, and then the wound muſt not be probed for fear of a hemorrhage: The ſecond, five days, when ſuppuration will have taken place, unleſs the wound has been too ſtrongly compreſſed: dreſs as at firſt. In a few days the third dreſſing muſt come off, and if any black ſpots appear on the ſurface, they commonly indicate that there are yet relics of the cartilage; if ſo remove them. Dreſs every other day with the ſame digeſtive, the cauterized parts excepted, on which ſmall pledgets, dipped in tincture of myrrh-aloes, are to be applied. The exfoliation may happen in two weeks, or a month, according to age and conſtitution.

When the eſchar has fallen off, the wound ſoon fills up; but ſhould any particle of the cartilage

cartilage or bone remain, and the exfoliation have been imperfect, freſh fiſtulæ would enſue, and occaſion the neceſſity of a new operation; an inconvenience which I experienced before I had the advantage of reading St. Bel's Book. Probe the black ſpots, and if needful introduce a ſufficiently ſolid tent, ſoaked in the above-named tincture, and lightly duſted over with powdered vitriol, or red precipitate, in order to facilitate the deſired exfoliation, and conſume part of the fleſh covering it. When once the wound is ſound to the bottom, all danger is at an end, and the trouble is amply recompenſed. Run at graſs previous to work.

NARROW HEELS, AND BINDING OF THE HOOF; GROGGINESS AND SURBATING; THE FOUNDERED FOOT, AND LOSS OF HOOF.

NARROW HEELS. I have already ſpoken ſufficiently of caſes of this kind, and will only add, that hard, narrow, and wiry heeled horſes, of all others, demand the new method of ſhoeing; and that you had better to avoid vexation, knock your horſe on the head at once, than have him ſhod by a common farrier, who will, conjurer-like, every time of ſhoeing, open the heels; that is to ſay, cut away the ſubſtance which nature has placed there, expreſsly for the purpoſe of keeping them open.

GROG-

GROGGINESS is that ſtiffneſs ariſing from battering of the hoofs on hard ground, or ſwelling of the legs, and contraction of the ſinews. A horſe bearing all upon his heels in his trot, is ſtyled groggy, and the defect is generally incurable; at leaſt I have found it ſo after ten months trial. SURBATING is derived from the *Sobatitura* of the old Italian writers, and means beating of the foot, which ends in a founder. Sudden accidental ſurbating, or compreſſion by the ſhoe, will be remedied by timely ſtable attention. See that Chapter.

The FOOT-FOUNDER is an obſtruction, or condenſation of the humours; and is either acute and from ſudden accident, or the conſequence of a long ſeries of prediſpoſing cauſes, many of which have already been noticed. A ſudden foot-founder may be occaſioned by ſuppreſſed perſpiration (ſee Vol. I. p. 270) or it may aſſociate with the body-founder, or it may ariſe from ſtanding conſtantly tied up in a narrow ſtall. It is generally in both feet either before or behind, ſometimes in all four. There is great inflammation in the parts, and ſwellings of the veins in the legs; and in the acute founder a ſymptomatic fever attends. The acute and chronic have been formerly, and by no means improperly diſtinguiſhed, as the wet and dry founder. By the ſtraining of the muſcles of the loins, in order to favour the pained feet,

ſome

ſome farriers have ſuppoſed the diſeaſe to be in the loins; however the ſymptoms of founder, are too obvious to be miſtaken: Gervaſe Markham very aptly compared the ſenſation of the horſe from the foundered foot, to that pricking and ſhooting experienced by the human animal, from obſtructed blood in the foot, when ſaid to be aſleep: but the old farriers made a dreadful miſtake in gartering up the leg in this caſe, which muſt neceſſarily increaſe the obſtruction, and redouble the tortures of the afflicted beaſt; in ſhort, the number of ſimilar inſtances, independent of any other conſideration, ought to be an eternal bar to confiding the medical or ſurgical care of animals to merely mechanical hands.

In thirty years, I do not recollect to have heard a ſingle inſtance of a foot-founder cured by a farrier, nor have our Veterinarians boaſted much of their ſucceſs: in a chronic caſe, no poſſible good could be done in the houſe, and it would be madneſs to attempt it, or rather ſomething elſe in him who ſhould undertake it for a fee. All that can be done in the ſtable is as follows; as ſoon as convenient after which, turn the horſe off, for ſix months at leaſt, upon ſalt paſtures in preference, but at any rate, where ſhelter may be had, and where feed is not too difficult to come at, or the foundered creature may be ſtarved either for want,

want, or from cold: cut the toe until the blood come, and let the hoof bleed awhile; then with the drawing knife make a number of vertical inciſions, through the whole foot, from under the coronet almoſt to the toe, nearly or quite to the quick, without even fearing to touch the cartilages; the feet may be wrapped in emollient poultices a few days, afterwards charge with tar, and powdered olibanum; or pitch and roſin.

In an acute founder, bleed; allow an opening diet, with ſaline phyſic, and nitre and glyſters, as in fever and motten-greaſe. Pare down the cruſt and thin the ſoal. Soak the feet and legs thoroughly in warm water, in which bran has been ſcalded; and afterwards gently rub dry with cloths. Leave the feet all night in poultices of mealy potatoes and ſcalded bran, mixed up with oil of turpentine, which may be continued three nights. My reaſon for adviſing potatoes, is becauſe I find they retain the heat much longer than any of the uſual articles. Prepare the fotus, (with or without ſpirits, or ſal ammoniac) or bath for the legs and feet, recommended p. 119, in which ſteep them well, keeping the liquor to a conſtant convenient heat, full half an hour; giving the legs afterwards long continued gentle frictions. Stop the feet with pledgets of tow dipped in the warm mixture of turpentine, linſeed oil, and camphorated ſpirits; and bind

the

the hoofs round with flannel dipped in the ſame mixture. Theſe meaſures muſt be perſevered in ſtrictly three times a day, until the condenſed and ſtagnated humours are rendered ſufficiently fluid for circulation, when the overſtretched veſſels being diſburdened of their ſuperfluous contents, may be reſtored to their proper tone by reſtringent applications. Walking exerciſe in the mean time will be beneficial, but it muſt be in a dry and warm place, and the greateſt care taken that the feet be not wetted, and the horſe ſhould be led, not ridden. When the inflammation ſhall have ſubſided, and the proper feeling of the feet have returned, meaſures directly oppoſite to the foregoing muſt be adapted. Waſh the feet in urine and vinegar, firſt blood-warm, afterwards cold; bathe the legs with the reſtringent embrocation, lead abroad daily, and prepare by degrees for the only effectual reſtoratives, graſs, and the dew of heaven. Theſe meaſures failing, recourſe muſt be had to the operation preſcribed in the chronic caſe. The old farriers, and St. Bel after them, remarked that a foundered horſe, by way of eaſing the tenſion and pain in his legs and feet, would place himſelf upon his back. Would it not promote the reflux of the ſtagnant humours to continue the horſe in that poſture half an hour a day, upon a ſoft bed, extending and faſtening up his four legs,

in

in ſuch ſort, that the ligature did not impede the courſe of the blood? I hope the ladies will pardon the compariſon, but I ſuppoſe I caught this idea from the memoirs either of Mrs. Bellamy, or Mrs. Anne Sheldon; one of which laid all night with her hands tied up above her head, in order, by draining them of blood, to make them delicately white.

It has, I believe, been the general practice of the farriers, to pare the ſole of the foundered foot thin, and charge it with pitch and tallow, or ſome ſuch combuſtibles, boiling hot; preciſely ſo was the patient ſerved, in the caſe which I have already quoted, and it appeared to me to confirm the founder. The method I have laid down I have always ſeen ſucceſsful in analogous caſes, but as I differ in a material point, as well from our own writers as from Profeſſor St. Bel, who has treated this diſeaſe more at large, I muſt beg leave to refer the enquirer thither. Contrary to a principle laid down elſewhere by himſelf, in a caſe of fluxion, inflammation, and tenſion, when, ſpeaking of aſtringents and repellents, he ſays, "they fix "the humour in the part, and coagulate it, "conſtringe the veſſels, check the circulation, "and at length occaſion induration, the effect "of the concretion of the fluids."—He orders a foundered and feveriſh foot to be ſoaked an hour in a cold bath, in which have been in-

fuſed the moſt powerful repellents and aſtringents. This practice I well know has been derived from ancient authority, and is preſcribed by Petrus Creſcentius and others, but that, and even the conſideration that ſuch method has ever ſince prevailed in the Continental ſchools, is no abſolute proof of its rectitude; and for my own part, I muſt confeſs I ſhould as ſoon think of applying a ſnow-ball by way of poultice to a feveriſh head. I muſt entreat the reader not to miſunderſtand me; I do not pretend to dogmatize upon this point, I am only ſubmitting my opinion to the correction of profeſſional men. I have repeatedly ſeen very ill effects from even moderate coollers and repellents, applied to hot and ſurbated feet.

When from any accident the whole hoof ſhall become looſe, ſo as to indicate an entire parting from the bone, prepare a pliable leathern boot with a ſtrong ſole, fitted to the foot, to be laced around the paſtern. The boot to be bolſtered and ſtopped with ſoft flax or tow, that the horſe may tread as eaſy as poſſible, and the ſtopping to be daily renewed. Dreſs with wound ointment, in which is mixed myrrh, maſtich, and olibanum, very finely powdered. In caſe of fungus; precipitate, ſublimate water, &c. Should the coffin be found, a good new hoof will be produced; but it muſt

be

be noted, the old hoof will fall ſpontaneouſly, and ought by no means to be removed by violence, or the knife; unleſs indeed where it may compreſs the new.

LAMENESS FROM RELAXED OR CONTRACTED SINEWS.

The uſual ſeats of theſe lameneſſes in horſes, are the KNEE-JOINTS; the BACK-SINEWS, or *Tendo Achilles*; the PASTERN, and COFFIN-JOINTS; the LOINS, or COUPLINGS; the HIP, or WHIRL-BONE; the STIFLE, and the HOCK.

Alternate contraction and extenſion, or elaſticity, ſeem to be the grand ſource, or medium of motion, in all animated bodies; the muſcular and tendinous fibres, the ligaments of the joints, the muſcles themſelves, and their appendages the tendons, are all endowed with their appropriate portion of this elaſtic power. The animal fibre I ſuppoſe to be in its perfect ſtate, when its powers of contraction and extenſion are exactly equal; this aptitude for its proper functions, is injured in various degrees, by thoſe cauſes which produce inordinate contraction or relaxation, namely, heat and deſiccation, or overſtretching, attended with a flux of moiſture. Nothing can be more apt than the analogy ſo often adduced upon this occaſion, of a piece of catgut, which if it become too dry, inſtead of ſtretching will break; or if

wetted, or overſtrained, loſes in degree, or perhaps for ever, its elaſticity or contractile power.

Bracken and Oſmer are the proper authorities to be conſulted on lameneſs of the tendons, ſince they were practically acquainted with that deſcription, among which the malady is moſt frequent, namely race-horſes. It is laughable enough to read Burdon on the ſubject; the captain was a man of great diſpatch, he cured an old ſtrain in the back ſinews in half a dozen nights; and of all things in the world, with greaſe and emollient poultices.

Oſmer, although he has written curiouſly and well upon the cauſes and cure of theſe maladies, has bewildered and contradicted himſelf ſtrangely in his endeavours to ſupport the abſurd notion that tendons are inelaſtic and incapable of ſtrain: St. Bel has gone farther, and entered into various reaſonings in ſupport of this hypotheſis, which might be eaſily enough refuted in detail, but that any trouble with the ſuperſtructure is totally unneceſſary, ſince the foundation itſelf may be ſwept away with a few words. The tendons, to be capable of their muſcular action, muſt neceſſarily be elaſtic. In the firſt place, let any man make uſe of the *extenſor* muſcle of his leg, and extend or point his toe ſtraight forward upon the level of his knee, and then clap his fingers upon the *flexor* tendon

don juſt above his heel, and he will find the ſaid tendon relaxed and flexile; let him then elevate his toe, and depreſs his heel, and he will in an inſtant feel the tendon firmly contracted, and comparatively hard as a bar of ſteel. The ſame thing preciſely he will experience in the leg of a horſe.

Farther, the dead tendons of a horſe, and of every other animal, are elaſtic, until they have loſt the quality by a total loſs of moiſture; it is true indeed of elaſtic bodies, that to ſtretch them, they require a mechanic force in proportion to their ſubſtance, for which reaſon there is a greater appearance of elaſticity in a fibre, than in a large tendon compoſed of fibres; and hence may have ariſen the deception. That the *Tendo Achilles* in a Turky is elaſtic, almoſt every cook will vouch, and I can confirm their report, from a freſh drawn one now lying upon my table. I ſhall moreover avail myſelf of the high authority of Dr. Darwin; ſpeaking of a limb, in convulſions, he ſays (*Zoon.* Vol. II. p. 327) "the tendon is ſeen to be ſtretch-" ed."

To aſſert that tendons are mere inirritable, inert and torbid bodies, appears to me, not only contrary to palpable experience, but a wild and unnatural paradox; ſince in that ſtate they would be incapable of their proper muſcular functions, and even ſuperfluous and uſeleſs,

but there ſeems a ſtrange affection for pardox in ſome men, which ariſes perhaps in certain caſes, from their ſuffering themſelves to be invariably guided by their own peculiar ſenſations, from a confined view of things, and defective attention to the idioſyncracy of bodies. This is often a ſource of cruelty. A certain gentleman who has lately written upon medical errors, after fifty years practice, not only recommends to expoſe the body to cold air during the operation of a purge, but even anſwers for the innocence of the cold-bath at that time.

A tendon being endowed with the muſcular power of contraction and dilatation (which I have inſtanced, becauſe Oſmer pretends to argue from its looſe uncontracted figure) or rather ſuch being its natural offices, muſt of courſe be liable to injury from exceſs in either of theſe, and the injury muſt in courſe produce a defect of elaſticity; nor does that neceſſarily preſuppoſe elongation, ſince there is a ſpecies of elaſticity not at all connected with elongation, for inſtance, that of whale-bone and wood. But I neither aſſert that the tendons of horſes are elongated by a ſtrain, nor grant its impoſſibility: the main tendons may be ſecured from that by their poſition, and when we ſee a race-horſe which is broke down, with his heel nearly upon the ground, it may be probably the ligaments

ligaments and fibres only which are lengthened, and yet, with equal probability, the tendons themſelves may be elongated in their apportionate degree; that they become ſoftened, and loſe part of their tenſeneſs and contractile force, under theſe circumſtances, any one may diſcover who has feeling in his fingers; and this is all which is contended for.

Strains are of various degrees, and neceſſary to be diſtinguiſhed, whether acute and recent, or chronic, and of long ſtanding; and in caſes of inferior concern, the fibres only are affected, and that perhaps barely by inflammation, as when we ſee the legs of a young horſe ſwelled and painful after work; or the fibres may be relaxed, or ſome of them even ruptured, by a ſudden ſtrain; the ſame may happen to the ligaments, or tyers of the joints; and laſtly, when the force of the ſtrain is very great, and in caſe of repeated and accumulated injuries to the tendons themſelves, the animal fibre may gradually loſe a portion of its elaſticity, which can then only be reſtored as it was loſt, by gradual means; a truth of the utmoſt importance: when the injuries have been frequent, the reſtorative means too long neglected, or the ſpring too much weakened, no perfect reinſtatement of it need ever be looked for.

The proper means of reſtoring the tone, or ſpring of relaxed animal threads, are by reſt,

and abatement of the ſtreſs upon them; by aſſuaging the inflammation, and promoting the abſorption of the concomitant flux of humour with poultices, partly emollient and partly reſtringent, and after the tenſion ſhall have ſubſided, by the application of bandage to the looſened parts, and of thoſe rough and auſtere ſubſtances which are known to poſſeſs the power of bracing or drawing up; laſtly, by the actual cautery, or fire: after theſe, or in conjunction with theſe, in horſes, the parts ought to be expoſed, during a certain period, to the bracing influence of the atmoſphere; in the human animal, to that of water, or the temperate or cold bath.

I am not ignorant that inſtead of retaining the antiquated words, bracers and aſtringents, I might have adopted a more faſhionable term from the Darwinian nomenclature, but I muſt be bold to ſay, that I am averſe to change unattended with actual improvement, whether in morals, politics, or medicine; and I humbly conceive there is neither improvement nor correctneſs in the ſubſtitution of the word *Sorbentia*, ſince many of the proper *ſorbentia* are relaxent, and many aſtringents cannot properly be called abſorbent, although it be true that their ſecondary effect is to promote abſorption. The doctor's aſſertion (Vol. II. p. 735) that bracers and tonics are mechanical terms, not applicable

applicable to the living bodies of animals, may I think be experimentally confuted and overthrown by holding a glaſs of rough Port wine in the mouth, or the application of cold water to the relaxed ſcrotum. Bracers act firſt by their power of contracting, or drawing parts together, from which it follows that the contained fluids are propelled, and their abſorption is promoted. To make uſe of the term *Sorbentia* in this mode, ſeems to me an adoption of the figure *Hiſteron Proteron*, or the ſetting the cart to draw the horſe. Let me once more apologize for ſtating my objections to particular parts of that great monument of genius, human learning, and medical knowledge, the Zoonomia; I ſhould hold myſelf doing a great man the greater honour, by ſpeaking my mind freely in his preſence.

As to the method of cure, I ſhall begin with a clap in the back ſinews, the moſt common accident; the ſigns of which are deſcribed, Vol. I. p. 202, as alſo is the remedy in a ſlight caſe, or mere inflammation, in p. 81. of the preſent Volume. The ſeat of the complaint being well aſcertained from the motions of the horſe, and the heat and tenſion at the back part of his leg, put him immediately by himſelf in a looſe ſtable, and bleed him, giving maſhes and ſalts. Foment the leg twice a day, in the bath already adviſed, with the addition of

ſpirits

ſpirits or vinegar, but ſhould the herbs not be within reach, ſubſtitute warm water and ſkim milk. Should that not ſucceed, poultice. The inflammation having ſubſided, uſe the reſtringent embrocation twice a day; ſuffer no one to ride the horſe. Judge from your obſervance of the cauſe, from the ſymptoms, and the action of the horſe, whether it were a ſudden accident; convinced of that, and no farther appearance of the ailment, he may be brought moderately to his work. If an old affair, no ſudden appearance of ſoundneſs ought to be an inducement to work a horſe a ſingle hour previous to a three month's run at graſs, becauſe ſuch unthrifty conduct enſures relapſe, and aggravation of the complaint beyond all remedy. Let no one liſten to the pretended ſpecifics of ſilly grooms in this caſe, which are to effect a cure in a few days; thoſe doctors ſuppoſe the buſineſs ended, as ſoon as the inflammation has ſubſided, whereas that criterion only marks the commencement of the cure.

It is proper here to ſay a few words concerning the form of embrocation which I have recommended on my own experience; as no man of is more fond than myſelf of quoting the *nullius addictus*, it would be abſurd indeed for me to deſire any one to pin his faith upon my ſleeve; I ſhall, therefore, by and bye, ſubmit other forms to the reader's choice. I have found

found the mixture in queſtion to ſucceed well, not only with the ſinews of horſes, but being proportionably reduced in ſtrength with thoſe of human creatures alſo; and from about ſeven years experience upon my own perſon particularly, I can recommend it in either recent or old ſtrains. Infuſe eighteen drops of Goulard's Extract in an ounce of water, add beſt diſtilled vinegar, one ounce; camphorated ſpirits, two tea-ſpoonsfull. Mix. Some years ago I relaxed the ligaments of my ſhoulder, which I cured in about three months, by ſuſpending the arm, bandaging the part, cauſing cold water to be poured upon it every morning, and the conſtant uſe of the embrocation. In about three years I accidentally ſtrained the parts again, when the injury became incurable; only as it is occaſionally braced and palliated by the above mixture.

In the Chapter on Diſeaſes of the Eyes, I have ſpoken on the abuſe of reſtringents, particularly Goulard's Extract, and other preparations of lead. It is a long time ſince I ſaw Goulard's Eſſay on Lead, but I believe he directed his Extract never to be uſed undiluted with water, for want of which obſervance I have committed ſeveral diſagreeable errors, both with myſelf and others. A young perſon once applied to me with a ſlight ſtrain in the foot, in which I raiſed a moſt violent inflammation

mation and contraction, producing abſolute lameneſs, by cauſing the part to be embrocated with a mixture of vinegar, ſpirits, and Goulard undiluted, although the quantity of the latter was by no means large: The ſame thing happened to myſelf ſeveral times, and I was ſufficiently ſenſible of that heavy benumbing pain in the very marrow of the bone, which I have heard deſcribed as the uſual effect of lead, by thoſe who labour in the manufactories. In horſe caſes, I have often found by the rigid and inflamed ſtate of the parts, that I have been bracing too faſt, and my uſual method is to order cold water a few times, as a ſubſtitute for the embrocation. I have many times drawn up the lax ſinews in the courſe of a few days, and made the horſe to all appearance ſound; but the firſt ride has convinced me of the inutility of thoſe premature meaſures, by the return of the horſe as lame, and his ſinews as looſe as at firſt. In moſt caſes, our medicines by no means want efficacy, but we ourſelves want patience; not ſtopping to conſider the abſolute neceſſity of the healing and conſolidating balſam of time. If reſtringents are too violent, even when the parts are cool, they contract the fibres too ſuddenly, whence neceſſarily enſues a re-action, with increaſed debility; the fluids alſo are puſhed forward too faſt for the capacity of the abſorbents,

abſorbents, which produces inflammation, tenſion, and increaſe of the diſeaſe; how dangerous then muſt be the effect of powerful bracers upon nervous and tendinous parts, yet in a ſtate of inflammation from recent injury? And yet ſuch application is a common practice.

I muſt acknowledge that I am by no means prepared to give a decided opinion on the ſubject of firing, or the application of the actual cautery in ſtrains; the truth is, I have had few horſes fired, and with thoſe few it did not ſucceed. Its uſe is ſaid to be, to diſcuſs ſwellings by promoting abſorption; and in contracting the ſkin to form a conſtant bandage round the ſinews, both during the cure, and ever afterwards. What ſtrikes me as the moſt important benefit in the meaſure is, the ſupport it is ſaid to give to the parts after the cure. The neceſſary precautions reſpecting the operation upon the back ſinews are, that the parts to be fired be not in a ſtate of inflammation, that no croſs lines be made on any account, that the fire be only given deep enough to have ſufficient effect upon the ſkin, without burning the ſheaths of the tendons, that no perſon be ſuffered to mount the horſe, but that he be turned to graſs, as ſoon as convenient, for at leaſt three months. The windgalls, I think, ſhould be let out previous to firing. When the operation is intended to

be

be very effectual, the lines are drawn thick around the leg, from the bottom of the paſterns almoſt up to the knee. I ſhould conceive that fewer lines would make a firmer bandage. I muſt remark alſo, that a man's common ſenſe muſt naturally depict the operation of cauterizing as a very delicate one, and by no means within the power of every heavy-handed ſmith.

When the paſtern joints are exceedingly full and ſwelled, the legs gorged, the tendons enlarged, in fact the parts indurated, there ſeems an almoſt abſolute neceſſity for bliſtering and firing, ſince no other meaſures will be ſufficiently diſcutient; however, when it ſhall be again my lot to have another caſe of this kind in hand, in addition to the number with which I have been plagued, I mean to depend on bliſtering, to diſcharge the coagulated humour, without firing; and to conduct a curative proceſs abroad. After the bliſtering courſe, as long as may be needful; that which I have already ſtyled the actual bracer, or a firm bandage, ſo faſtened that the tendon may not be preſſed downward, to ſupport it whilſt the horſe walks about. Embrocation to be uſed every night in the field, at leaſt once a day, the horſe being accuſtomed to come for a few handfulls of corn; to be continued two or three months. It is unneceſſary to remark,

that

that the horſe had need be valuable, and the owner to poſſeſs a few ſparks of laudable equeſtrian enthuſiaſm, to render all this trouble worth while; however I can almoſt warrant it would pay well in the caſe of race-horſes, few of which but muſt be ſhortened in their ſpeed, if fired to any effectual purpoſe of bracing; and after all, I can ſcarce think but that a force ſufficient again to ſtart the tendon, muſt alſo be adequate to looſen or burſt the bandage.

With *Contracted Sinews* (to which poſt-horſes chiefly are ſubject) the legs are hot and gorged, and the joints indurated; the horſe ſteps ſhort, and is liable to drop down ſuddenly, particularly in his walk. If there be any effectual remedy, it is repeated bliſtering, and ſix months graſs. As to palliatives within doors—brandy and linſeed oil, for a liniment. Daily warm emollient fomentations, be they only bran and water. A liniment of gooſe greaſe, and ſpirits doubly camphorated. Or. Black ſoap, one pound; old beer, one quart; neat's-foot oil, full half a pint; ſeethe over the fire, and when cool, add camphorated ſpirits, half a pint; uſe this warm.

PASTERN-JOINT wrung, or ſtrained by accident; fomentation, anodyne poultice, embrocation, bandage long continued. Markham ſays, in a wrench of this joint, there will be

be ſwelling and tenderneſs upon the joints of the ſhoulder, or withers. In ſtrains of the knee-joints, whether in horſes, or the human ſpecies, I have obſerved the *extenſor* tendon affected, and pained at the bottom of the leg.

COMPRESSION OF THE NUT-BONE, between the coronary bone and the tendon, and ſtrains in the COFFIN-JOINT. The ſigns, ſwelling and great pain in the coronet, heat in the foot, ſtiffneſs in the joint, and ſetting the toe only upon the ground. Pare the ſoal, and bleed the foot as in a founder; the ſame after treatment as above. It ought by no means to be forgotten, that ſtrains in theſe lower joints neglected become perfectly incurable; diſlocation, *anchyloſis*, or immobility of the joint taking place. Drawing the ſoal (of which I have ſpoken before) is ſometimes reſorted to in this caſe. I have of late, for the firſt time in my life, heard of a ſolitary inſtance of ſucceſs in this torturing operation, without, however, having had ocular proof. I think all men of feeling ſhould ſet their faces againſt it, ſince it is well known how often it has been recommended and performed, merely to promote buſineſs. Snape, Gibſon, Burdon, Oſmer, Wood, and all our ableſt practical men, were entirely againſt it. Wood, Burdon, and others, aſſert, that there is no hurt in the caſk of the foot, which may not become at without the aid

aid of this deſperate meaſure. St. Bel directed to draw the ſole on a very ſlight occaſion, which I formerly remarked in a certain ſmall tract; but in a founder, where it would be dangerous to unſole, that author adviſes to make an opening by cutting away about two finger's breadth at the top and front of the hoof, beneath the coronet, which was alſo Snape's and Gibſon's practice. I believe I omitted to mention this ſmall operation before, it may perhaps anſwer in ſeveral caſes.

Strains in the SHOULDERS, are much leſs frequent than in the nether limbs; as to the ſymptoms, there is generally a *deceptio viſûs*, all lame horſes appearing affected in the ſhoulders, however ſound thoſe parts may be, which is the occaſion of the perpetual blunder of grooms and farriers, whoſe ſole rule of judgment is from appearances and cuſtom. The only ſign to be depended upon within my knowledge, is the motion of the fore-arm already adverted to, or tenderneſs and tumour in the parts. The muſcles or ligaments of the ſhoulder, may be relaxed, or even a diſlocation may poſſibly, but not very probably happen; contuſion and ſtunting of the point of the ſhoulder may enſue, from running againſt any hard body; and laſtly, notwithſtanding the merriment of Oſmer, a horſe may be really *ſhook in the ſhoulders*, of which I have been too often

often convinced. This laſt is a diſeaſe of inflammation and contraction, analogous with ſurbating and the foot founder, and to be removed (when curable) by rowels and running abroad. For a diſlocation, ſwimming is generally recommended, or reduction of the joints by extenſion and counter-extenſion (the inflammation being previouſly allayed by relaxent applications) under the care of an able veterinary ſurgeon; afterwards bandage, aſtringents, and long reſt.

For ſtrains in the LOINS or COUPLINGS, Bracken adviſes the following charge; pitch and roſin, each four ounces; turpentine, three ounces. Mix. Pour it upon the parts warm, and cover the fillets all over with tow or hurds. I have no great opinion of the efficacy of this charge, unleſs a ſtrengthening embrocation could be alſo poured upon, and ſoaked into the parts twice a day; and after all, if the affair be ſerious or of long ſtanding, no in-door meaſures will ſucceed. If only a ſlight ſtrain, no labour of any kind, during the cure.

In lameneſs of the HIP, or WHIRLBONE, the leading ſymptoms are, ſwinging of the limb, or its being longer than natural; when the horſe trots, he drops backward upon the heel; in general, perhaps, not going very lame, on which account the diſeaſe is neglected, until it becomes incurable. A ſlight affection

fection of the muſcles and ligaments, is cured by the proper reſtringent applications, with time and reſt. Where the whirl-bone, or hip is beat down from its ſocket, it will ſo remain, and yet, perhaps, the horſe may do conſiderable ſervice. Hipped horſes have even raced. The cure is generally bliſtering, firing, aſtringents, and reſt; but Oſmer aſſerts the inutility of firing in this caſe, on account of the ſtrong muſcles intervening between the ſkin and the ligaments. In bliſtering he directs a broad piece of cloth to be kept upon the adjacent part of the horſe's flank, to guard it from inflammation. If you rowel upon the thigh, beware of the ligaments.

Of the STIFLE-BONE, upon the thigh-bone, ſimilar to the ſmall cramp-bone in a leg of mutton. (Vol. I. p. 215.) Uſual treatment for ſtrains, and reſt. Parts being ſwelled, foment, making uſe of crude ſal ammoniac and wood-aſhes. The tumour will ſometimes ſuppurate, but ſeldom, which ſoon perfects the cure. Should a rowel be neceſſary, any convenient part will do. The accident taken in time, and properly treated, is by no means dangerous.

STRAINS IN THE HOCKS. Sickle-hammed horſes, whilſt young, are ſubject to theſe ſtrains, ſeldom with any other external ſign than heat in the parts and lameneſs. Reſt, reſtringents,

moderate labour. In caſe of tenſion, or calloſity; fomentations, bliſters, firing with ſmall, ſuperficial, and rather cloſe lines; charge afterwards with mercurial plaiſter, and that DE CICUTA CUM AMMONIACO, melted together, renewing once or twice as it drops off. The joints of the hocks being much enlarged, Oſmer recommends the cataplaſm of ſalt (ſee farther) twice a day, and fomentations, with bleeding and cooling internals, rejecting bliſters and firing.

The abſolute diviſion, or rupture of the main TENDON, is remedied, by bringing the divided extremities into exact contact, by compreſſing and ſecuring them in that ſtate, and by binding the fetlock with a ſplent externally applied, that the foot, having loſt the ſtay of the tendon, may not turn outwards to impede the union of the ruptured parts. The uſual cooling and reſtringent remedies. St. Bel aſſerts, that ſuch a rupture is never perfectly cured without drawing the ſole: We do not find that to be exactly the caſe in England, and I ſhould conceive the tenderneſs of a new ſole to be the worſe alterative. Would not Oſmer's method of an inciſion under the part affected, be particularly uſeful in this caſe? The old farriers' directed to divide the ſinew with the ſhears, when ruptured, but not thoroughly, which produces convulſions; after, a charge

charge of turpentine, Burgundy pitch, and *Sanguis Draconis*, applied hot.

The fracture of the leg or thigh-bone, in cattle, was held by no means incurable, or even very difficult of cure, by *Datagliacozzo*, *Ruini*, and the old veterinary anatomiſts, as *Solleyſel* aſſures us; far leſs ought it to be ſo in the preſent times. The cure is performed in the common mode of ſplent and bandage, and the uſual dreſſing; the horſe or beaſt being left in a large outhouſe, or dry field, where he will make a good ſhift with three legs. This is probably full as well as ſlinging with canvas and ropes, directions, and a plate of which, may be ſeen in the laſt edition of Bartlet's *Pharmacopeia*.

The only practicable method of reducing diſlocations in the joints of cattle, is to caſt the animal upon his back on a ſoft bed, and draw up his four legs with pullies; the diſplaced joint ought then to be extended, with all poſſible tenderneſs and care, duly replaced, and bound.

The general cauſe of thoſe frequent ſtrains in the back ſinews, to which horſes in England are peculiarly liable, is our cuſtom of hard riding; but the extent of the miſchief may be conſiderably reduced, by the improved method of ſhoeing, which reſtores to the *flexor* tendons, or main ſinews, the intire frog, intended by

nature as their cuſhion and ſupport. In all inviſible or uncertain lameneſſes, it ought to be an inviolable rule to attempt no random methods of cure, but to turn the horſe to graſs, a ſufficient length of time, during which, he will probably either obtain a cure, or diſcover the ſeat of his malady. The man who ſhould ſuffer his farrier to operate under ſuch circumſtances, I would adviſe to apply to the conjuror in Hatton Garden, whenever he ſhall be ſo unfortunate as to loſe a ſilver ſpoon.

To repeat what I ſaid in the Firſt Volume, the touch of a delicate and diſcriminating hand, will generally diſcover the affected part: A thorough jockey, mounted upon the nag to which he has been accuſtomed, will even diſcover from his motions, the play of his ears, and his preſſure upon the bit, the ſmalleſt deviation from his natural ſtyle of going; and will be thence able to form a pretty accurate prognoſtic of the nature of his complaint. No farrier ought to be truſted in affixing patten-ſhoes to the feet of lame-horſes; for I can aſſure the reader I was aſtoniſhed in converſing with a man in very great practice, ſome years ago, to find him totally ignorant on that head. Becauſe in waſting and contraction of the ſinews, on one ſide, it was found beneficial to affix a patten, or high ſhoe, upon the oppoſite foot, in order to oblige the animal to put the other

other foot to the ground, by which action the ſhrunk or contracted ſinews were habitually ſtretched, and in the end brought to their due tone; the ignorant and undiſtinguiſhing farriers acted preciſely in the ſame way, when the leg or ſhoulder was lame from being relaxed, or overſtretched, thereby adding to the complaint, and rendering the victim totally incurable: If a horſe was lame in the haunches, for a cure they forced him to drag the harrows. In a ſhoulder-lameneſs, after the uſe of oils, they directed the horſe to be journeyed on by way of benefiting him; a conduct equally rational as the ſuſpending a leaden weight to a piece of catgut, after having well greaſed it, in order to criſp and draw it up, or to recover its elaſticity. Farriers cures for ſtrains, even at this hour, are generally oils and greaſy applications; but to repeat the practices of this claſs of men in former times, upon poor horſes ſuppoſed to be lame in their ſhoulders, or with real diſlocations, would be to add to the already amplified catalogue of ancient barbarities and follies.

In turning lame horſes abroad for recovery, eſpecial care ought to be taken that they are not confined in a narrow place with ſound ones, which may drive and haraſs them about. When the back ſinews are conſiderably let down, and the frog will not touch the ground, it is of great uſe to turn the horſe off in a light

bar-ſhoe, the bar reſting upon the ground, and ſupporting the frog and the tendon.

VARIOUS FORMS OF EMBROCATION FOR STRAINS. Beſt vinegar, one pint; camphorated ſpirits, four ounces; white vitriol diſſolved in a little water, two drachms; mix. OR. Vinegar, half a pint; camphorated ſpirits, and ſpirit of vitriol, two ounces each; mix.

Take diſtilled vinegar, eight ounces; diſſolve therein, one ounce Caſtile ſoap; add half an ounce ſal ammoniac. OR. Sugar of lead, alum, and white vitriol, one drachm each; powder and diſſolve them in four ounces tincture of roſes, and two of japan earth. This is powerfully aſtringent.

Take the whites of three or four eggs, beat them to froth, add roch allum, finely powdered, one ounce. Spirits of wine camphorated, and of turpentine, half an ounce each, mix.

An OPODELDOC, diſcutient and bracing. Spirits of wine, two pints; Spaniſh ſoap, five ounces; digeſt in a gentle heat until the ſoap is diſſolved, then add camphor one ounce; oil of origanum, one ounce. The quantities of camphor and origanum may be increaſed upon occaſion.

Oil of turpentine, one ounce; ſpirit of wine camphorated, two ounces. This from Bracken, but I find if conſtantly uſed, the turpentine fetches off the hair; perhaps the addition of a little

little Barbadoes tar might prevent that effect; which, in fact, will be changing the turpentine into oil of ſpike.

For enlarged, inflamed, and weakened TENDONS from Oſmer. Foment twice a day with decoction of white lily roots, mallows, elder-leaves and flowers, bay-leaves, &c. Make a poultice for the parts of the fomentation thickened with meal. The tenſion ſubſided, apply twice a day the SALT CATAPLASM; or, common ſalt, whites of eggs, vinegar, and oat-meal, uſing alſo aſtringent mixtures. OR. Make two inciſions through the ſkin below the diſeaſed part, being careful not to wound the fibres, or ſheath of the tendon, apply as above, and keep the wound running. This I have never tried.

CHAP.

CHAP. XV.

TUMOURS—WOUNDS—ULCERS; WITH THE PROPER EXTERNAL APPLICATIONS. MISCELLANEA.

FOR critical Tumour and Abſceſs, ſee Strangles: Encyſted, ſee Windgalls. Phlegmons or Boils ſeldom require external remedies, ſee Warbles. Oedamatous ſwellings, ſee Dropſy. Schirrus or induration, will only give way to potential, or actual cautery. Wens ſhould be extirpated in their early ſtate, which is then eaſily performed with the hot knife, or perhaps by ſeton; they have alſo been ſucceſsfully amputated upon horſes, when very large and broad at the baſe, the flux of blood being ſtayed by the cautery, and by ſtyptics: it muſt be noted they are encyſted, and will re-appear, unleſs the bag be eradicated. For caſes ſee Gibſon, Vol. II.

Tumours in general, whether ſpontaneous, or reſulting from contuſion, are to be reſolved and diſperſed, which is effected by compreſſion with bandage, by fomentations, poultices, and repellents. Inflammation, according to the preſent

preſent theory, is always attended with the production of new fibres, conſtituting new veſſels; theſe veſſels not being re-abſorbed ſecrete a new fluid, that is, purulent matter, which generally forces its way through the ſkin: La Foſſe obſerved this kind of new veſſels in diſſection, but apparently without being aware that it was a general conſequence of inflammation.

Wounds, Ulcers, or foul Wounds. All our beſt writers, from the days of Gibſon to the preſent time, have concurred in making heavy complaints againſt the farriers, for obſtinately adhering to the ancient method of treating wounds, and I am very ſorry I have no right to vouch for any general amendment. It is ſtill too much their practice to make uſe of oils and greaſy applications, to cram the parts with long hard tents, to thruſt a whole candle into a wound, and there leave it (which has prepared many a horſe for his laſt journey) and to begin too ſoon, or needleſsly, with eſcharotics.

In a healthy ſubject, fleſh-wounds are ſufficiently diſpoſed to unite and heal, nature herſelf furniſhing an agglutinating balſam; the chief care neceſſary, is to preſerve them from the air, and keep them clean. The proper medicaments, whether of the healing, detergent,

or

or diſcutient claſs, are compoſed of turpentines, gums, and ſpirits, with as little oil as is conſiſtent with rendering the compoſition ſufficiently emollient. Inflammation renders poultices and fomentation neceſſary. Bring the lips of the wound together by bandage or ſewing; indeed the latter is not often neceſſary. A ſingle ſtitch is ſufficient for a wound two inches long; in large wounds, ſet the ſtitches full an inch diſtant; in thoſe ſeated upon prominent parts, ſuch as the hips, or the large muſcles, the ſtitches generally burſt in ſunder upon the horſe's lying down or riſing, on which account the lips muſt not be drawn too cloſe: the wound being deep, the needle muſt be paſſed deep in proportion. Should inflammation and great diſcharge enſue from the tightneſs of the future, relief will be obtained by cutting the ſtitches. In caſe of hemorrhage, from an artery divided, paſs a crooked needle underneath, and ſecure it with a waxed thread, in preference to ſilk; ſhould that be impracticable, clap a button of lint or tow, dipped in ſome proper ſtyptic (hereafter given) faſt upon the orifice of the bleeding veſſel, carefully keeping it there with a proper compreſs, until the eſchar be formed. Cover with rags dipped in brandy, tow ſpread with wound-ointment, &c. obſerving it as a general rule, to keep all

divided

divided parts as much at reſt as poſſible, to promote union. In two days the firſt dreſſing may come off, the parts may be fomented and poulticed, and a proper digeſtive applied; continue this until the fleſh ſhall appear florid, and the diſcharge healthy, and of good conſiſtence, when the fomentations may be diſcontinued, and the wound healed with proper attention to the ſuppreſſion (when needful) of the fungous fleſh; but eſpecial care ought to be had, not to dry the wound too much, and render it horny by the abuſe of eſcharotics. The tents, or doſſils made uſe of, ought to be ſoft and ſhort, and put in as looſe as poſſible.

WOUNDS UPON THE JOINTS OR TENDONS, and thoſe occaſioned by ſtakes, or goring of oxen, are cured by the ſame method; in theſe latter, the orifice muſt be enlarged, and inſtead of the old farrier's method of thruſting up a candle, and ſtitching it faſt, to confine the matter and impede digeſtion, make an inciſion in form of a croſs, wide enough for the diſcharge, and proceed as before.

In GUN-SHOT WOUNDS, and in caſe of the intruſion and lodgment of any foreign body, ſuch ſhould be extracted when it can be done without too much pain and diſturbance; otherwiſe by emollient and drawing poultices; the orifice muſt generally be enlarged and a depending one procured.

In

In SCALDS OR BURNS, the ſkin being intire, bathe well three times a day with camphorated ſpirits, in which ſoap has been diſſolved, and keep the parts dreſſed with linen dipped in the ſame, or with a plaiſter of ſalt and ſoap; or uſe an embrocation of ſoap, ſalt, and camphorated ſpirits. When the ſkin is broken, anoint with ſalad, or linſeed oil. Linſeed oil, red lead, and bees-wax, half a pound each, boil and mix over a ſlow fire. Or, in caſe of great inflammation, bread and milk poultice with elder flowers. Yellow baſilicon with precipitate. Or, dreſs the burnt parts with—two ounces crude ſal ammoniac, boiled a few minutes in one quart water, mix gradually with ſpirit of wine, one quart.

ULCERS muſt be brought to the ſtate of a wholeſome wound, and to diſcharge a good white and thick matter, previous to any attempt at healing. They muſt be carefully probed, and every cavity and ſinus detected, and thoroughly cleanſed to the very bottom. Dreſs, and fill with dry lint to the ſurface. Bandage tight. In ulcers of the human body, the application of cold water from a tea-pot has been recommended by authors of good repute; for inſtance, Rigby, and lately by Mr. Baynton; adheſive plaiſter being applied for bandage. In ſome caſes oak bark, beat very fine, ſeven parts, with ceruſe powder, one part, may

may have a good effect. Alum water, or powdered charcoal, are of great uſe to counteract the fetid ſtench in putrid ulcers. All callous or horny ſubſtances muſt be extirpated with the knife or cauſtic. In hollow ſinuous ulcers, where no counter-opening can be made, injections muſt be uſed. When the bones are foul, which is generally diſcovered by a looſe, flabby fleſh, a thin, oleous, fetid diſcharge, and by the rough feel of the bone againſt the probe, it is neceſſary to extirpate the looſe fleſh, to come at the bone, in order to remove the carious part, which is beſt effected by the cautery. In gangrene, bark internally, and the mortified parts timely ſcarified, to eliminate the putrid ſcrum. In the ſymptomatic fever ſometimes attendant upon wounds, cooling laxatives, glyſters, veneſection; in a depraved ſtate of the blood, alteratives, ſteel, &c. It is recommended to farriers to provide themſelves with proper leaden probes, needles, &c. from the ſurgeons-inſtrument makers.

VARIOUS FORMS.

The COMMON POULTICE. Milk half a pint; ſalad oil, three large ſpoonfuls; *grated* bread enough for due conſiſtence. Add the bread to the milk when boiling, afterwards beat in the oil thoroughly.

SUP-

SUPPURATIVE OR RIPENING POULTICE IN THE STRANGLES. Leaves of mallows and marſh-mallows, green or dry, twenty handfuls; white lily root waſhed and pounded, half a pound; linſeeds and fenugreek ſeeds bruiſed, four ounces each; boil very ſoft and pulpy, and add elder ointment, four ounces; and lard as much as needful. Mix, and keep for uſe.

COMMON DIGESTIVE POULTICE, in Greaſe, &c. Boil ground oat-meal, and ſtrong beer grounds, add lard enough to ſupple it. Turpentine, two ounces may be added, or four ounces to the foregoing. OR. Lily roots, linſeed, and rye flour.

RESOLVENT. Onions and camomile flowers properly boiled and mixed, add gooſe-greaſe, or for want of it, neat's-foot oil. This is very efficacious to diſperſe ſwellings. OR. With oatmeal, cummin ſeeds powdered, two ounces; and powdered camphor, half an ounce; or ſal ammoniac diſſolved in Britiſh ſpirit. Proper in bruiſes, and to diſperſe coagulated blood.

ANODYNE. Boil camomile, elder leaves, or flowers, poppy, bay-leaves, and roſemary with oatmeal, mix with elder ointment, and a little camphorated brandy.

REPELLENT AND RESTRINGENT. Diſſolve alum in vinegar, or verjuice, add half the quantity

quantity of oil, with red wine lees, or ſtale beer grounds, and bean meal. Or. Old verjuice, or diſtilled vinegar, one quart; alum, one ounce; currier's ſhavings, or oak-bark, boil to a poultice, with or without ſaturnine ointment, and apply warm twice a day.

Unguents, Emollient and Suppurative. Elder ointment. Or. Neat's-foot oil, three pints; yellow wax, nine ounces; yellow roſin, half a pound; turpentine, two ounces; ground ginger, two ounces. Melt the roſin and wax in the oil, take off the fire, and add the turpentine; ſtrain hot, and mix in the ginger.

Stimulant and Discutient. Flanders oil of bays, half a pound; gooſe greaſe, four ounces; quickſilver, one ounce; turpentine, one ounce. Mix the quickſilver and turpentine thoroughly, then adding the reſt, work well half an hour. A quantity of *digitalis*, or fox glove flowers, ſufficient to impregnate the whole maſs, may be beat up with it, the ointment being kept two or three weeks previous to uſe. To diſſolve tumours on the glands, or kernels, either in the brute or human ſpecies.

Blistering. Nerve, and ointment of marſhmallows, each two ounces, quickſilver, one ounce, rubbed in a mortar with one ounce and half of turpentine, till of a lead colour; mix thoſe well, and add cantharides, in

fine powder, one drachm and half; ſublimate, one drachm; oil of origanum, two drachms. Or. Common ointment, or oil, two ounces; cantharides, three drachms. Obſerve that the flies are freſh and good. Cut the hair cloſe as poſſible, rub in well and patiently. Tie the horſe up without litter, till the bliſter work. Cover with pitch plaiſter. When a rowel will not diſcharge, apply now and then a ſmall quantity of bliſter with a feather.

Digestive for Wounds. Venice turpentine and bees wax, one pound each; olive oil, one pound and half; roſin, twelve ounces; when melted, ſtir in two or three ounces verdigreaſe, finely powdered; ſtir on till cold. This may be uſed with red precipitate, inſtead of verdigreaſe, half an ounce to four ounces. Burgundy pitch one pound may be added to the digeſtive. For wounds near the joints, &c. Venice turpentine, one ounce. Yolks of two eggs, honey and tincture of myrrh, one ounce each. Balsam equal to Friar's. Gum Benjamin, three ounces; ſtorax, two ounces; balſam of Peru and Tolu, half an ounce each; ſuccotrine aloes, ſix drachms; myrrh, two ounces; rectified ſpirit, two pints; infuſe in a warm place ſeveral days, till the gums are diſſolved, then decant.

Healing. Beat up whites of eggs and flour with a little brandy; ſpread on brown paper.

For

For ſlight treads, &c. TOBACCO OINTMENT. Leaf tobacco, half a pound; boil in a quart Red Port to a pint (or elder wine and diſtilled vinegar, equal parts) ſtrain, and add half a pound tobacco in fine powder; lard or oil, one pound; roſin and bees-wax, four ounces each; roots of round birthwort powdered, two ounces. Drying, detergent, and appeaſes pain.

STYPTICS AGAINST BLEEDING. Puff-balls dried and powdered. Spunge moderately dried by the fire, ſo as not to deſtroy its ſpring, and kept dry. OR. Roch allum and blue vitriol, three ounces each; ſpring water, one quart, boil till diſſolved, filter, and add oil of vitriol, half an ounce. Apply with doſſils of lint. Coldbatch's ſtyptic may be had of the druggiſts.

GELDING is ſafe at any age in a healthy ſubject. Having opened the ſcrotum, tie the cords with a ſtrong waxed thread, and then cut off the teſticle. Proceed as in other wounds. The old mode was with the cautery, and no ligature; very unſafe. Moderate exerciſe. Several bottle-conjurors have gone about at different periods pretending to make *a ſecret* of gelding horſes, and working them in a few days; and, *lamentabile dictu*, the ſecret has died with one of them, notwithſtanding a certain wiſe-acre employed himſelf two hours, endeavouring to bring the dying man to a con-

feſſion. The itch for miracles ſeems innate. *Si Populus vult humbuggi, humbuggiatur.*

SWELLED NECK FROM BLEEDING. Warm fomentations, cooling ſaturnine ointment, bread and milk poultice. Check proud fleſh with red precipitate and burnt allum, fine powder. If ſwelling or indurations remain, ſpirits doubly camphorated, four ounces; bole, one drachm; Aquafortis, twenty drops. Apply lint or tow, dipped in the mixture; bind with warm thick flannel. Proper in bruiſes of the back and withers. OR. Rowel in the breaſts, and blow the ſkin up to the part affected. SWELLING, or BRUISE from the Saddle. Boil hay in equal parts of ſtale urine, iron quenched in it, and verjuice; ſpirits may be added after, or not. Bathe with the liquor, and charge with the hay as hot as can be borne. Renew. A SIT-FAST muſt be exſected with the knife, or extracted with pincers; in the latter caſe, place a whiſp of hay, and upon it a board, as a fulcrum, or reſt for the pincers. As to CHAFING with COLLAR or HARNESS, the moſt miſchief happens from wet, or the harneſs being rough dry; prevention, or inſtant remedy. Salt and water. Vinegar. Spirits to the raw places.

POLL-EVIL, AND FISTULA IN THE WITHERS. Thoſe generally ariſe from groſs and brutal neglect, and would ſubmit in their early ſtage to the uſual repellents, hot vinegar, &c. with

with bleeding and cooling internals. When the inflammation increaſes, and it is obvious matter is forming, forward with poultices, if neceſſary, and wait until the abſceſs be thoroughly ripe, and fluctuating under the finger: then introduce one or more ſetons, from the upper to the very loweſt extremity of the tumour. This will ſucceed, and indeed make the beſt cure in a mild caſe; but in dangerous and inveterate ones, ſuch as I have ſeen, would be a very feeble and deceptious method, as I have already hinted; and on a reference, I find Dr. Bracken of the ſame opinion. When the abſceſs on the poll is opened, if there be matter on both ſides, a depending orifice muſt be made in each. In the neceſſary operations with the knife, great care muſt be taken that the muſcles be not cut acroſs, and particularly that the white line, cervical ligament, or as the farriers call it, the fix-fax of the neck, be not wounded; and that the parts be preſerved as much as poſſible from the air. Tie the horſe's head high, by which the ligament of the neck will be ſlackened, and leſs expoſed to danger, as the finger may be introduced under it. It is probable, that ſome operators in theſe caſes, may have been too free with the knife, but it is equally true, that in foul and fiſtulous ulcers, in horſes, no cure can be expected until the corrupt or callous fleſh ſhall be extirpated either with the knife or fire; and that at laſt there will be fre-

quently ſuch an overflow of greaſy and gluey matter as will blunt and render uſeleſs the moſt potent corroſives, unleſs applied ſcalding hot.

The COMMON DIGESTIVE FOR ULCERS. Add to the general wound ointment ſpirits of turpentine, or a few drachms of maſtic and myrrh, in fine powder, or tincture of myrrh. Or uſe the following; common tar, two pounds; turpentine and honey, half a pound each; a dozen yolks of eggs; melt, and when they are only milk warm, ſtir in one ounce beſt verdigreaſe in fine powder, or an ounce or two of red precipitate, mix ſufficiently long, that theſe laſt do not ſink.

PHAGEDENIC WATER to ſuppreſs fungous fleſh. Strong lime water, one quart; corroſive ſublimate, half an ounce; ſtir frequently ſeveral days, pour off clear, and add ſpirit of wine, eight ounces. OR. A ſtrong ſolution of Roman vitriol and alum, in water.

CLEANSING MIXTURE IN POLL-EVIL, OR FISTULA. Beſt vinegar and rectified ſpirit, half a pint each; white vitriol diſſolved in a little water, half an ounce; tincture of myrrh, four ounces; ſhake when uſed. To be heated in a ladle, and the abſceſs waſhed with tow well ſoaked in it. Fill with tow, moiſtened in the mixture, or ſoaked in ægyptiacum, and oil of turpentine hot; and cover with tow ſoaked in vinegar and whites of eggs beat together; warm woollen over all.

SCALD-

SCALDING MIXTURES. When all meaſures have failed to bring the ulcer to good condition, from its coldneſs, and the ſuperflux of matter, ſcalding has generally been reſorted to with ſucceſs; but I think it ought not to be adopted in caſe of much inflammation. Corroſive ſublimate, verdigreaſe in fine powder, and Roman vitriol pounded, two drachms each; green copperas, half an ounce; ægyptiacum, two ounces; oils of turpentine, and train, or linſeed oil, eight ounces each; rectified ſpirit, four ounces; mix in a bottle for uſe. OR. Verdigreaſe, half an ounce; oil, half a pint; oil of turpentine, four ounces; of vitriol, two ounces. Firſt cleanſe the abſceſs with ſpunge and vinegar, then pour in the mixture ſcalding hot, from a ladle with a ſpout; cloſe the lips with ſtitches, and cover to remain ſeveral days; if then the matter appear thick and good, nothing farther will be needed than ſpirituous applications; if otherwiſe, the operation muſt be repeated. In a confirmed caſe of this kind, what would be the event of covering the abſceſs with a Burgundy pitch plaiſter, making one or more ſetons, and turning the horſe upon a ſalt marſh?

TO PROMOTE THE GROWTH OF FLESH. Dragon's blood, bole, maſtic, olibanum, and round birthwort, half an ounce each; ſuccotrine aloes, one drachm and half; make an ointment with turpentine.

APPLICATIONS IN GANGRENE. After the neceſſary ſcarifications, waſh the parts with ſtrong ſalt and water, and old verjuice, equal parts; or, the nitrous acid. OR. Boil the following in one gallon ſtrong vinegar, to two quarts—alum, one pound; copperas, half a pound; verdigreaſe, fine powder, three ounces. Shake as you uſe it: if not ſufficiently ſtrong, add to each quart, quickſilver, one ounce, diſſolved in two ounces aquafortis. Foment and poultice. Dreſs with baſilicon, four ounces; oil of turpentine, and ægyptiacum, two ounces each, melted together.

VARICOUS ULCERS, or thoſe among the blood-veſſels, muſt be bathed once or twice a day, with warm fomentations of oak-bark, pomegranate flowers, red roſe buds, alum, and white vitriol, boiled in vinegar.

FOMENTATIONS, DISCUTIENT AND REPELLENT. Wormwood, ſouthernwood, and camomile, two handfuls each; bay and juniper berries bruiſed, one ounce each; crude ſal ammoniac and pot-aſh, two ounces each; boil in three quarts ſpring water to two; to every quart when uſed, add one pint ſpirits of wine camphorated.

DRAWING APPLICATIONS. Arſmart and brooklime, equal quantities. Juſt cover them with ſtale urine, ſtop cloſe ſome days. Boil for uſe, and apply hot. This is ſaid to be particularly efficacious in a ſudden ſtrain of the ſhoulder,

ſhoulder, with much tenſion and inflammation, and may be applied in a kind of boot, wide at top, and faſtened over the withers. CATAPLASM FOR SWELLINGS. Black ſoap, yeaſt and honey, a quarter pound each, gooſe greaſe, *q. s.* ginger, fine powder, one drachm.

BLOOD. Solleyſel ſpeaks pretty much at large of the prognoſtics to be drawn from the appearance, colour, and conſiſtence of the blood in horſes, and therein ſeveral of our authors have copied him; but as far as I have obſerved, nothing in the world can be more fallacious, and in this opinion I am confirmed by the experienced Mr. Clark; who obſerves, that the blood of horſes which labour hard, generally appears of a darkiſh, or deep red, and ſometimes with a thick yellow, or buff cruſt; and that the blood of a ſick horſe will often have the appearance of one in full health, and *vice verſa.* This by way of caution, ſince the badneſs of the blood of their patients is ſuch a common and alarming theme with our Cyclopian doctors.

FUMIGATION for ſtables, after any infectious diſeaſe, from Dr. C. Smyth. Immerſe a tea-cup into a pipkin of heated ſand, put into the tea-cup half an ounce of concentrated vitriolic acid, gently heated, and half an ounce of pure nitre in powder. Stir them together with a glaſs ſpatula, until a conſiderable degree of vapour ariſe.

To

To preserve Steel from Rust. Boil an ounce or upwards of camphor, in a pound of lard, ſtir till cold. Scour off the ruſt or dirt, apply the ointment, and let it remain a few hours, or a day or two; then rub clean with a dry linen cloth. This gives a good poliſh to bits, ſtirrup-irons, &c, and is proper for arms, ſtoves, and ſteel furniture about to be laid by: for the latter, black lead may be added. This is an old receipt from Burdon, but the beſt I have experienced.

Passage of Horses by Sea. A perſon who took a ſtallion over to America, *upon deck*, gives cautions againſt that as a very dangerous practice. Previous to ſhipping horſes, their ſhoes ſhould be taken off, and their toes ſhortened. In a long paſſage, they ought frequently to have maſhes; ſometimes with brimſtone and cremor tartar, equal quantities, mixed in them.

Turning off. Much miſchief, and even litigation, has ariſen lately from errors in this particular. Be it remembered, that tall or large horſes cannot ſubſiſt upon a ſhort bite, for the plaineſt reaſons; nor is poor winter graſs ſufficiently ſubſtantial for them. In theſe circumſtances, it is neceſſary that ſuch horſes be well filled twice a day from the crib.

Hay. Salt ſtrewed upon the mow, when making, about a quarter pound to three hundred weight of hay (it is ſaid) will correct the damp,

damp, prevent mould, and render the hay more nutritious and reliſhing.

In ANOINTING the hides of cattle, arm the hand with a bladder.

CHAP. XVI.

ON THE DISEASES OF HORNED CATTLE, AND THE PROPER TREATMENT OF COWS AND CALVES.

HORNED and other cattle, are not ſubject to that variety of diſeaſes, and of untoward accidents, which neceſſarily attends the ſuperior luxury, and more frequent, and ſeverer labours of the horſe; hence probably thoſe have not ſhared the equal attention of our modern veterinarians; but ſince medicine is medicine ſtill, to whatever creature it may be diſpenſed, whether to horſe or cow, to quadruped or biped, the ineffable burleſque of intruſting the preſcription of it to farriers and cow-leaches, will no doubt ſoon be laughed off the ſtage.

On this head, had I room to ſpare, it would not be in my power to do more than ſketch a general outline of practice, both from the want of extenſive experience of my own, and the total

total defect of authorities which are worthy of dependance. In thoſe few caſes only which have occurred in my own practice, or in which I can borrow to advantage, I ſhall be more particular.

In the ancient writers, ſcarce any thing is to be found, applicable to modern occaſions, or the enlightened practice of modern times: the ſame may be ſaid of the books of our modern cow-doctors in general, (thoſe lame and imperfect copyiſts of the ancients) which exhibit an uncouth and barbarous nomenclature of diſeaſes, a vague and unintelligible pathology, with a medicinal catalogue, and method of treatment, perfectly congenial. Divers Italian phyſicians, both of the laſt and preſent century, have treated on the diſeaſes of cattle, but from what I have read of their works, I think I may venture to aſſert, that little to any beneficial purpoſe, is to be drawn from thoſe ſources. The various writers on black cattle and ſheep, have been collated by Haller, and in the *Giournal di Literati* of Italy. Dr. Hales' Vegetable Statics may be conſulted, and Dr. Layard before mentioned; for the reſt, a practitioner muſt be guided by the analogy which holds in the diſeaſes of the larger animals, and his own diſcriminating obſervations.

Much the ſame methods of adminiſtration, whether in regard to medicine, or the common operations,

operations, are in uſe among horned cattle, as among horſes; the ſame *materia medica* muſt be naturally common to both; and all thoſe coarſe or inſignificant vulgar articles, with which cow-drenches are ſtuffed, ought to be totally rejected, as of equivocal uſe, if not of probable bad conſequence. The doſes for neat cattle ſeem not to have been hitherto properly aſcertained and apportioned; but the little experience I have had, leads me to ſuppoſe, that they require a leſs quantity of medicine in a doſe, than horſes, by about one third in general. Why balls are not given them as commonly as to horſes, I am ignorant.

The medical aids generally required for cattle, are of the relaxent and deobſtruent ſpecies, with the occaſional demand of cordials; agglutinants have little place here, the animals poſſeſſing the inherent quality of being fatted with their proper food. The attempt to reſtore animals in a cachochymic or conſumptive ſtate, by the help of medicine, would be moſt unpromiſing; and the firſt end of ſuch, will on calculation be always found the beſt. When unthrifty animals have a fine ſilken and gloſſy coat, the true *prognoſcis* is, that their *viſcera* are unſound; and I have generally obſerved the liver of them to be of bad colour and conſiſtence, and the lights adhering to the *pleura*, or tegument of the cheſt; with a rough

and

and ſtaring coat, their ill habit may probably ariſe from internal obſtruction only, which alterants or purgatives may quickly remove.

The STURDY, OR TURNING-EVIL. See Staggers in Horſes.

FOUL IN THE FOOT, ariſes from want of cleanlineſs. Prevent by conſtant attention. For cure, cleanſe with bran and water boiled, and lather of black ſoap. Uſe Bracken's Fiſtula-water (Index.)

GARGET IN THE MAW, from ſwallowing crabs, acorns, &c. See the ſame in Horſes.

SCOURING IN COWS. This is common enough, and I have ſeen it continue ſo long for want of care, that the beaſt has been irrecoverable. Dr. Downing's preſcriptions in this caſe, of turpentine, pomegranate powder, pipe-clay, oak-bark, verjuice, &c. appear to me very dangerous, and likely to lock up the offending matter in the inteſtines. This *diarhæa* ariſes from various cauſes, to wit, change of diet, the ſolution of a cold, particularly after calving, or in travel acroſs the country; laſtly, it may be a ſymptom of rot, either from bad keep, or conſtitutional; this I think I have ſometimes diſcovered by the hair pulling off, as from a glandered horſe. Take it in time, and allow comfortable maſhes with warm, dry, and generous keep. See the diſeaſe in Horſes. It is called the ROT, in the North.

The

The HOOSE, OR CHRONIC COUGH. This in cows is often incurable. It uſually proceeds from cold taken in calving, and cold and wet winter lying. For palliation, or cure, ſee broken wind in Horſes.

LOSS OF THE CUD, OR QUID. By reading the ſtrange account of this indiſpoſition in the old writers, one is lead to ſuppoſe that the beaſt, through careleſſneſs, drops ſomething from its mouth, like a quid of tobacco, and lies down to mourn the loſs of it: their remedies were equally ſatisfactory. You are directed to take yeaſt, clay, piſs, ſalt, and the ſlaver of another beaſt, with which a new quid, or ball, is to be made for the patient.

The real cauſe, and remedy for this diſorder, are as follow: Cattle which ruminate, or belch up their food for maſtication, are provided by nature with four ſtomachs; of theſe the *rumen*, or cud-bag, which receives the provender, is conſtructed with certain fleſhy fibres, or contracting muſcles, which by drawing and purſing it up, enable it to throw into the gullet and mouth, the crude aliment to be chewed over again. The defect exiſts in the laxity and weakneſs of thoſe contracting muſcles, and their conſequent inability to expel the food for the purpoſe of rumination. This weakneſs may ariſe from various cauſes. The intention of cure is to brace the fibres and ſtrengthen the

the ſyſtem. Begin with warm maſhes of bran and ground oats. Give from four to ſix drachms, according to the ſize and ſtrength of the beaſt, of the fineſt aloes and rhubarb, equal quantities; ſalt of tartar, half an ounce; aniſeeds powdered, one ounce; either in gruel, or beer, warm. Good ſweet hay, ſmall quantities at a time. In two or three days, bark and gentian, half an ounce each; ground ginger a tea-ſpoon full, in warm ale, moderately ſweetened, twice a day, to be continued awhile; or, occaſionally a decoction of horehound, camomile, and *carduus*, ſweetened: the very rough aſtringents, ſuch as verjuice, oil of vitriol, alum, &c. uſed by cow-leaches in this caſe, are highly improper, and ſometimes have fatal effects. Clarke relates an inſtance of a horſe being killed by a draught of vinegar.

Red Water, or Bloody Urine, or Foul Water, in Cows. Opium, ſixty grains; with or without as much ruſt of iron; or thirty grains vitriol of iron to be given twice a day, in a ball mixed with flour and water, and diſſolved in warm ale: corn twice a day, and cover at night, if cold weather. Zoonomia, Vol. II. p. 69.

Gorged, or Hoven, *i. e.* ſwelled with over-feeding, either with green or dry food. Bleed from three pints to four, and drive about moderately. The caſe being ſlight, either

either of the following drenches may ſucceed, without paunching. Glauber or Epſom ſalts, two ounces; ſyrup of buckthorn, one ounce; nitre, one ounce; oil, half a pint; peppermint-water, a quarter pint; ground ginger, *q. s.* in three pints warm whey or gruel. Or. Dr. Whytt's medicine, of Edinburgh, by which he ſaved eighteen hoven cows out of twenty. Gin, one pint, in the ſame quantity of water. When the affair appears dangerous, and the beaſt cannot ſtand, loſe no time, but perform the ſimple and eaſy operation of paunching; *viz.* make an inciſion with a ſharp knife, on the near ſide, about an inch and a quarter long, between the rib and hip-bone, three inches below the bones of the loin. In caſe of pregnancy great care muſt be taken. The wound may afterwards be healed with tar and ſpirits, or Friar's balſam. A farrier, in Suſſex, lately took from the body of a cow near two buſhels of indigeſted hay. Some inſert a tube into the wound to conduct forth the impriſoned air; and Profeſſor Munro of Edinburgh, invented a flexile one, to be paſſed through the mouth into the ſtomach of either oxen or ſheep, which may be had of Mac Dougale, No. 15, Great Windmill-ſtreet, London. This tube may be left in the ſtomach of the animal any length of time, being no hindrance to breathing; or any medicine may be injected through

it. It is held a ſafer method than inciſion by Dr. M.

EPIDEMICS IN CATTLE; PEST, MURRAIN, OR PLAGUE. See Horſes. Dr. Layard, our beſt, or rather only author on this ſubject, publiſhed his book from *Rivington's* 1757. The doctor defines the diſtemper as a peſtilential fever *ſui generis*, peculiar to animals with horns, but uninfectious to all others. Leonard Maſgal, however, relates an anecdote in his days, of an infected hide, carried on horſeback to a tanner, which killed both man and horſe, tanner and all: although ſuch writers are little to be depended upon, one would ſuppoſe this to be too plain a caſe to be miſtaken.

The following is extracted from Zoonomia, Vol. II. p. 249. The *Peſtis Vaccina*, or diſorder among the cows, ſeems to have been a contagious fever with great arterial debility, as in ſome of them, in the latter ſtage of the diſeaſe, an *emphyſema* could often be felt in ſome parts, which evinced a conſiderable progreſs of gangrene beneath the ſkin. In the ſenſitive, inirritated fevers of theſe animals, I ſuppoſe about ſixty grains of opium, with two ounces of extract of oak-bark, every ſix hours, would ſupply them with an efficacious medicine, to which might be added thirty grains vitriol of iron, if any tendency to bloody urine. To prevent the infection from ſpreading, an order

order from government, forbidding the removal of any cattle found within five miles of the place ſuppoſed to be infected for a few days; until the aſcertainment of the exiſtence of the contagion by a medical committee: That being aſcertained, all the cattle within five miles of the place to be immediately ſlaughtered, and conſumed within the circumſcribed diſtrict; the hides to be put into lime-water before proper inſpectors.

MILCH COWS AND CALVES. My ſmall dairy, for ſome ſeven or eight years, varied occaſionally between two and ten cows: I ſhall preſent the reader with a few hints on the ſubject; in the obſtetric part particularly, taking the advice of Dr. Downing.

SWELLED UDDER. Some cows are liable to have the udder exceedingly ſwelled and inflamed, a few days before calving. Milk the cow twice a day, and bathe the parts thoroughly with camphorated ſpirits. It is an error to ſuppoſe milking a cow before calving is injurious.

CHAFING. Cows which are cat-hammed, and go cloſe behind, are apt to chafe the udder and thighs: I have had them raw, and even ulcerated, in thoſe parts, emitting a very diſagreeable ſtench. Waſh twice a day with warm ſoap ſuds, and bathe with *aqua vegeto*

and camphorated ſpirits mixed: or, for want of thoſe, brandy alone.

CHAPPED TEATS. Were the conſumers of milk to witneſs the filth which is mixed with it, in this caſe, they would think leſs of the trouble of prevention. Inſtead of ſuppling the teat with warm milk as uſual, which moſt probably goes, filth and all into the pail, order a bowl of warm water for the purpoſe. After milking, uſe the mixture ordered for chafing. Avoid all greaſy applications if poſſible; if not, uſe elder ointment, or gooſe-greaſe, with a little ceruſe mixed. In ſeven or eight days, the teats will be whole, and *cleanlineſs* may preſerve them ſo.

Cows are much more liable to danger in parturition, than other brute animals, and their bodies at that time are exceedingly acceſſible to the impreſſion of cold air. Warm ſhelter, if the weather be cold, or wet. Comfortable maſhes, with gruel, and a quart of warm ale. If cold be already taken, mix the ſize of a pigeon's egg of cordial ball, in the gruel; if that be not at hand, aniſeed, half an ounce, in powder; two tea ſpoons of powdered ginger; treacle, and the decoction of a handful of juniper berries. Keep the cow within till well.

Watch, and put the afterburden, or cleaning, out of the cow's reach, as their devouring it is ſometimes

ſometimes attended with nearly as bad effects as its retention: this laſt, I have ſometimes ſeen attended with fatal effects; and upon diſſection, the part remaining, has been found in a putrid ſtate. The beaſt more uſually lingers a great number of months. Symptoms, ſtaring of the hair, falling away of the fleſh, intermittent pulſe, ſhuddering, coldneſs of the ears, fetid breath, knots in the mouth, general languor and debility. The old leaches called this "wethering." I have treated this malady ſucceſsfully as follows: Warm lodging. Gentle currying and bruſhing, twice a day, permitting the cow to walk about in the day time, if fine. Good hay, maſhes, cordial, &c. as before. In the morning faſting, the following mixture, in three pints ſtrong decoction of pennyroyal, gruel, or ale: *Elixir Proprietatis*, compound tincture of caſtor, and *Spiritus Volatilis Aromaticus*, of each a table ſpoonful, or more, three ſucceſſive mornings. Should the beaſt be coſtive, a ſingle drachm or two of the fineſt aloes, in powder, may be added to one of the drinks. Repeat occaſionally, if needful. The cow to be ſucked dry, not milked.

For a violent puerperal fever, called by Downing, DROPPING after calving, he adviſes the following medicine, in a decoction of feverfew, balm, and camomile, to be repeated every twelve hours: Nitre powdered, two ounces;

rub it in a mortar, with a tea ſpoonful of oil of vitriol; then add valerian, one ounce and half; ſnake-root, one ounce; treacle, half a pound. A pint of the decoction of the herbs, ſweetened every two hours. Keep the cow warm with proper covering. Back-rake, if needful. Place her with the fore-parts elevated. Thick gruel or milk-pottage. Conſtant attendance night and day.

INWARD BRUISES, FROM EXTRACTING THE CALF. Spermaceti, and Iriſh ſlate, two ounces each; Caſtile ſoap, and diapente, one ounce each; in a quart of warm ale, daily. Or, the ſame made into balls with Venice turpentine. Warm water and maſhes.

WANT OF MILK. The drink and treatment recommended in colds. Or, fennel, aniſeeds, and grains of paradiſe, two or three ounces, in warm ale, ſweetened with Spaniſh juice; repeat.

VETERINARY OBSTETRICS. The diſciples of Mauriceau, Bracken, Smellie, and Denman, need not be at a loſs here to direct the operations of the leach or hind; analogy is a ſufficient guide. Cows, particularly the Northern ſhort-horned ſpecies, often need the aſſiſtance of the accoucheur. The natural preſentation of the calf, is with its head and fore-feet, the noſe between the feet, and the back upwards. Downing enumerates ſeven preternatural poſitions:

tions: namely, 1ſt. Reverſe preſentation, or tail firſt. 2d. Fore-feet, no head appearing. 3d. Sidewiſe, belly upwards, head reverſed over one ſhoulder, legs appearing. 4th. Fore-feet, with head under the briſket. 5th. Head alone, or one fore-leg only, with it. 6th. Head and one leg, or head alone. 7th. Calf lying on its back, its four legs folded nearly together, and cloſe up to the cow's back, the head appearing, or doubled back, even with the ribs, on one ſide or other; one hind-leg, perhaps, preſenting.

GENERAL RULES. Timely aſſiſtance, before the cow is exhauſted. Extraction never to be attempted in an improper poſition. Supple the hand and arm with warm water and freſh lard. Examination beſt made, the cow ſtanding, and in the interval of pains. In pulling at the feet, incloſe the claws in the hand, that the horn may not bruiſe the cow. Navel ſtring burſting, and the uſual flux of blood, of no conſequence. Inſtruments to be uſed only in the laſt reſort, and by experienced and ſteady perſons only. The proper hook, is of hard iron, four inches long, with a loop for the cord at the ſtraight end.

In a NATURAL POSITION, if the cow ſhould want help, the poſition of the calf may be aſcertained after the waters have been ſeen. A cord ought to be in readineſs, to attach to

the fore-legs of the calf, in order to aſſiſt each natural exertion. The head to be kept clear of obſtruction.

PRETERNATURAL POSITION, No. 1, as above. No attempt to turn the calf (this poſition being favourable for extraction) but uſe expedition for fear it be ſuffocated. Preſs the haunches back with the palm of the hand, take hold of the bend of the hock of one leg, pull at it, and reach the foot; both feet may thus be brought forth.—No. 2. Reduce the head to its proper ſituation, between the fore-legs, either by hold of the noſe, or jaw-bone. A long arm is needful, which muſt be kept to the full extent in the body, that inſtant advantage may be taken of every throe, the fingers being properly fixed.—No. 3. Gently move the calf back, and bring the head forth to the legs.—No. 4. Puſh the calf back to find the head; pull at the noſe: this requires addreſs, but it is uſeleſs to employ force, until the head be in its proper place.—No. 5, and 6. Puſh the calf back againſt the ſhoulders and briſket; the feet will be found folded under the belly, bring the feet forward, one at a time, the hand being gently placed on the bend of the knee. Should the head be too much ſwelled and bruiſed, to be returned, it muſt be ſkinned and amputated. Diſſect in a ſtraight line, from the poll to the noſe, force the ſkin back over the firſt joint of the

the neck, divide the head from the body, puſhing the latter back to obtain hold of the knees. The looſe ſkin muſt be previouſly wrapped over the ragged bone, and an aſſiſtant ſhould have faſt hold, in order to guide it clear of the haunch-bones of the cow; ſhould it hitch there, put back inſtantly—No. 7. If one hind-leg appear, put it back; the calf cannot be brought forth with a hinder and fore-leg together, and the difference between the knee and hock, will be immediately diſcovered. The head being doubled back, muſt of courſe be reduced to its proper place. The cow being ſtrong and quiet, the buſineſs may be effected with care and patience; but ſhould the hook be poſitively neceſſary, hold muſt be taken, either in the ſockets of the eyes, cavity of the ears, or in the jaw. Keep ſteady until fair hold be taken. The caſe of DROPSY in the calf, will be ſufficiently apparent by its preternatural ſize; uſe the knife carefully, ſhould that be neceſſary, to pierce the belly of the calf. For theſe rules, I repeat, I am obliged to Mr. Downing, to whoſe profeſſional abilities, I think they do great credit. His book is ſold by *Longman*, London.

SUCKLING. The common error of the nurſery univerſally prevails in the calf-pen. Calves are either allowed too much milk, or their ſtomachs are overcharged with too great a quantity

a quantity at a time; hence their digeſtive faculty is overpowered, thrift is impeded, and a ſtate of diſeaſe induced, the moſt common ſymptoms of which are, alternate purging and coſtiveneſs. Perhaps twice a day is too ſeldom, and it would probably pay the extra trouble, to ſuckle three times. The calf kept ſo many hours from the teat, often, in winter-time, ſixteen, greedily ſwallows an immenſe quantity of milk, ſinks down to ſleep, wakes with the diſagreeable conſequences of an overloaded ſtomach, belching up a ſcalding acid liquor, and remains reſtleſs and bleating for a freſh ſupply, and a repetition of the error. Many people milk the cow firſt, which is bad practice, the laſt milk being the richeſt, and not ſo proper for the calf. We have here the reaſons for the frequent ſourneſs of veal, and for its producing curds and whey, inſtead of rich and wholeſome gravy.

Costiveness in Calves. Take the chalk from them. Give half an ounce, to an ounce of magneſia, with the ſame quantity of aniſeeds powdered, in a pint of warm gruel, the powders being well mixed in it. This may be given occaſionally, obſtruction being a great enemy to thrift. Or. Rhubarb and magneſia may be given, equal quantities. I have repeatedly ſeen the good effects of this practice.

Purging Calf. I muſt differ totally from Dr.

Dr. Downing in this caſe, for reaſons already aſſigned. He adviſes for a doſe, chalk, pomegranate, bole, and alum, to the amount of four or five ounces. I have no idea that articles of that claſs, can do any thing but miſchief to a ſucking animal. I would recommend rhubarb, and a table ſpoonful or two of peppermint water, in warm ale. Afterwards, if neceſſary, two drachms of diaſcordium, in ale, for two or three days. Rice gruel. This failing to have an immediate good effect, the butcher's knife is the moſt profitable remedy.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

Page 2, line 18, omit *it*.
—— 6, near bottom, read *received*.
—— 15, line 9, read condemn.
—— 15, near bottom, read circulate.
—— 22, —— 11, omit the *!*
—— 24, —— 1, for *off* read *of*.
—— 39, read vegetate.
—— 51, middle, read *at*.
—— 66, line 6, from bottom, omit *downwards*.
—— 95, omit the *?*
—— 114, line 5, from bottom, read powerfully.
—— 139, —— 6, read those.
—— 160, —— 6, add *where*.
—— 219, —— 6, from bottom, read *facie*.
—— 239, —— 10, read *pissing*.
—— 291, —— 10, from bottom, read *hold*.
—— 295, —— 9, ditto —— omit *it* after pity.
—— 304, —— 2, ditto —— add *the* to animal fluids.
—— 331, —— 12, ditto —— read *Chio*.
—— 359, —— 2, ditto —— read *ictu*.
—— 408, —— 4, read *Molten*, passim.
—— 422, —— 7, from bottom, read *cuticular*.
—— 501, —— 12, ditto —— read *fungus*.
—— 521, add *upon* at bottom.
—— 538, line 5, from bottom, omit *of*.
—— 548, —— 6, ditto —— read *alternative*.
—— 559, —— 13, ditto —— read *serum*.

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